FLOWERS FOR EVERY OCCASION

EDNA S. TIPTON

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FLOWERS
FOR EVERY OCCASION

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CHURCH DECORATED FOR A WEDDING

Southern smilax above altar flanked by ferns and white chrysanthemums. Pillars wreathed with smilax and chrysanthemums; aisle outlined with white ribbons.

FLOWERS

FOR EVERY OCCASION

By EDNA SIBLEY TIPTON

Author of "Menus for Every Occasion," etc.

With thirty-four illustrations
from photographs

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PREFACE

More and more the hostess is asking for suggestions on how to use flowers. She is particularly anxious to learn of ways in which to decorate her home or public halls for festivities; how to give floral gifts, whether for a celebration or as a tribute to one who has left this world.

She can get many suggestions from the magazines devoted to the subject of beautifying the home and the garden. And she can also get hints on the technique of flower arrangement and floral decorations for various occasions. But she has said she wants descriptions of specific decorations. And by that she means she would like some examples of how other successful hostesses or those skilled in the art of arranging and placing flowers, have done it.

In compiling the data contained in this book, the author has set down such information as she has gleaned from attending many social functions and has acquired in her contacts with people in all stations in life, whether it was in

connection with aiding in the preparations for a christening or in the act of comforting families whose home death had visited. She has also consulted the smartest florists and caterers in New York City and has received from them invaluable aid.

For the assistance she has received while writing these pages she is more indebted than she can express to: Mr. Burns, of J. H. Small & Sons; Mr. Deal, of Totty's; Irene Hayes, the smart Park Avenue florist; the owners of the Ambassador Flower Shop; Mr. Voit, of Sherry's; Mr. Malnati, of the Biltmore Hotel; Miss Dunnegan, of Lord & Taylor's; and Mr. Slingo, of John Wanamaker's. She also wishes to thank Mr. Young, of the Society of American Florists, and Mr. Berhens, of the United Florists' Trades, Inc., for their coöperation. Credit is due and is gratefully given to the Standard Flashlight Company, Inc., for many of the pictures in this book.

For permission to include some of the pictures and much of the text the author wishes to thank the editors of *Pictorial Review, Holland's Magazine* and *Better Homes and Gardens,* as the material was first printed in their pages.

The author realizes that she has by no means exhausted the subject of Flowers for Every Occasion, but she ventures the hope that the information contained in this book will prove helpful to the reader in originating other decorations or decorative schemes that will suit the occasion for which it is conceived.

E. S. T.

New York
January, 1930

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FLOWERS
FOR EVERY OCCASION

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CHAPTER I

Everyday Use of Flowers

Once upon a time, as the fairy books say, flowers in many homes meant great wealth, a garden, a festivity, a wedding, an illness or a death. It was not usual to find blossoms lending their beauty to the surroundings for just everyday living. But that is not the case today! The many garden clubs which have sprung up all over the country; the interior decorators; the coöperative services of the florists; the magazines devoted to the subject of beautifying the home; woman's sense of the lovely and her yearning to be surrounded with it; the demand of the stronger sex for the feminine atmosphere — any of these or all of them may be responsible for the change. Be that as it may, the change has come, and no one regrets it.

The charming woman has learned that a few blossoms tastefully arranged in every room send out a subtle welcome to all who enter it; that blossoms appropriately chosen for the room they are to grace, enhance its beauty and also emphasize her own personality; that a room lacking much in furnishings and decorations may give the impression of loveliness, anyway, if flowers adorn it. And in this colorful age they accentuate the color-scheme wanted.

Eve's daughters have learned that to one man they are one person, to another son of Adam they are another. Or, they have learned that some people think of them as superb, stunning, exotic creatures, and others think of them as loving homebodies. And, " full of wisdom," they surround themselves with blossoms that seem to express one or the other of these personalities.

And here is another suggestion for your personality background. It is said that we each have a birth-flower and that it is good luck for us when we surround ourselves with it or wear it, and we are told that we all respond differently to certain colors, according to our birth-date. Colorologists say we each have one color that expresses and impresses our personality and that we have another color that makes us

Courtesy, John Wanamaker, N. Y.

FLOWERS FOR THE LIVING-ROOM

Blossoms flanking the painting emphasize its color. A tall vase, with long-stemmed flowers, looks well on the floor.

Courtesy, John Wanamaker, N. Y.

TERRACE AND PATIO DECORATIONS

Plants and vines in decorative pots lend a charming atmosphere to terrace or patio.

accomplish whatever is our heart's desire. Find out what your birth-flower is and have it near you whenever possible. And when it is out of season, surround yourself with blossoms of the color that influences your personality or your ambition, according to which you want to stress the most — and you'll win, or so it is promised.

If you have lived in foreign countries and have pieces of furniture and pictures that reflect the atmosphere of those countries, try to have in your rooms the flowers you loved there. An American woman who lived many years in China has chrysanthemums in her rooms, whenever possible. Another woman lived many years in Brazil, and has in her home some antique Portuguese furniture. The vases in her rooms always hold blossoms such as she used to have in that country, particularly orchids, which, as you know, grow wild there. And women who have lived in Mexico or New Mexico are partial to cactus plants.

Mr. Babcock, who is the man responsible for Mah Jongg in this country, tells us that many foreigners who visit China take up the study of flower arrangement as it is taught in that country. Another gentleman from Japan tells us a similar story. There is much written about the

art in floral arrangement sponsored by these countries, and many people try to employ it in their American homes, but unless the furnishings and the hangings in their rooms are suitable for it, blossoms thus arranged are apt to strike a discordant note.

In placing flowers in the home, you will be sure to get a pleasing effect if you follow the rules given below, for they are those which students of the art subscribe to.

1. As far as possible, let the flowers in each room either match or harmonize with the color-scheme of the interior decorations. Or, failing that, let them further emphasize the decorative theme of the room.

2. Place flowers under a colorful picture or near a lamp with a colorful shade, so that the colors of the painting and the flowers or of the lampshade may emphasize each other.

3. Put bright blossoms in dark corners.

4. Wild flowers and simple garden flowers are best for the country home.

5. Supply your guest-room with blossoms known to be favorites with each visitor, or with those that seem best to express her (or his) personality. If you are at a loss to know what blossoms these may be, bedeck the room with blossoms that best suit the color-scheme of the room.

6. Don't neglect the kitchen, when you are thinking of flowers for the home. A rose geranium plant in a

polka-dot pot, a flowering bulb plant in colorful pottery, a bright geranium plant in a pot of cheery shade — any of these will make the housewife — or the cook — dread the sight of her workroom less.

7. Wall-pockets filled with blossoms or vines, or both, look well in some rooms, particularly in the hall or in the sun-room.

8. Flowers and branches of distinctive form are entrancing bits of decoration if they be placed in pottery and set where their shape is most impressive. Such bouquets are charming at the window or with a mirror background.

9. In selecting flowers for the window, try to use those which harmonize in color with the over-drapes.

10. Don't overlook the potpourri of rose petals, violets, etc. They give an old-time atmosphere to the room in which the decorative jars filled with them stand.

11. And don't forget that lemon verbena leaves, lavender, rose petals and rose geranium leaves (to mention a few of the fragrant blossoms and leaves) give wonderful and dainty touches in the dresser drawer or in the linen closet.

CHAPTER II

Vases and Other Receptacles for Flowers and Plants

Before taking up the subject of selecting appropriate containers for flowers and plants, a place for storing them when not in use should be mentioned. Every flower-lover knows that a great many of these must be at hand if receptacles suitable in color and shape to the blossoms to be placed therein are to be provided. Also, she who studies the subject knows that usually the vase which best brings out the beauty of the bouquet it holds is quite plain and so is not at all decorative when empty.

Of course, the best way to " house " these receptacles is to have a flower-pantry. In such a room there will be plenty of dust-proof glassed-in shelves to hold them; there will be a sink with faucets placed high enough to allow for filling tall vases; a wastebasket to hold snipped-off ends of stems and faded blossoms will be placed handy to the sink; shears, knives, etc.,

and flower-drugs, such as aspirin, camphor, salt, etc., should be in this room, too. If there is no flower-pantry in your house, try to keep one closet, or at least one shelf, for flower-equipment.

As the vogue in vases, bowls and other containers changes from time to time, it would seem a waste of space to state in this book what is the latest fad just now. However, there are certain rules governing the selection of receptacles for flowers and, if followed, one cannot go wrong, whether the latest is adhered to or not.

These rules are given below:

1. The vase should merely form a background for the bouquet it holds; that is, it should serve to bring out the beauty of the flowers and not call particular attention to itself.

2. The receptacle should be large enough to hold the blossoms placed therein without in any way crowding them.

3. The container should be deep enough to hold sufficient water to cover the stems well. If not, the blossoms soon wither.

4. The shape of the vase should be such that it conforms somewhat to the general outline of the type of blossoms placed therein.

5. Choose a vase of the same, a similar, a contrasting, or a complementary, color to the flowers it is to hold.

6. Use a tall vase for long-stemmed or straight-stemmed blossoms, and use bowls for short-stemmed or curved-stemmed flowers.

7. Use a wall-vase or a jardinière for trailing vines.

Sometimes flowers are placed in containers that were never made to hold them and yet the effect is very artistic. For instance, a few stalks of Queen Anne's lace in an old amber whisky bottle was most ornamental and dainty on a small end-table in the living-room in one country home. In this same dwelling, a brown pot that had been used many times to bake beans in, was lovely as a centerpiece on a small dining-room table, when filled with yellow pom-poms. In another home, a silver loving-cup filled with gladioli was most effective at one end of a large living-room table; a small, oddly-shaped drinking cup in silver, filled with posies appropriate to the room, was very dainty on a dressing-table; in a tiny, not-too-light breakfast-room, a blue jam-pot filled with salmon-colored roses lent a touch of color that completely transformed the room. And even crystal cocktail shakers have been used to advantage as vases for long-stemmed blossoms.

Though flowers are frequently put into receptacles not made to hold them, vases are

Courtesy, Lord & Taylor, N. Y.

VASES

Vases of many shapes and sizes, suitable for all types of blossoms, are needed in the home.

Courtesy, Lord & Taylor, N. Y.

FLOWER POTS

No matter how lovely the plants may be, decorative receptacles must be used to hold them.

Courtesy, John Wanamaker, N. Y.

THE BOUQUET

Large blossoms on long stems should be in a vase in which they are not crowded.

quite as frequently used to hold something else besides flowers. We have seen small flower-bowls filled with candies or rock-candy crystals (used to flavor tea) and one of the prettiest gift-items that has come on the market is the vase filled with potpourri. The favorite is a shell-pink crystal vase filled with rose petals and is, of course, a most suitable bedroom ornament.

A hint that is worth taking concerning your choice of a vase for a certain spot is that you select one which will be appropriate to the flowers it is to hold and will emphasize a color in the decorative scheme of the room. We know of a living-room in which the floor is covered with an Oriental rug in tones of henna and blue, the henna predominating. In this room, the home-maker always tries to have flowers that harmonize with or match the henna of the rug and she places them in a blue vase that will emphasize the blue in it. Of course, she has pictures on the wall and over-drapes that emphasize these colors, too.

Each year the florists display more artistic baskets to be used for ornamental plants that are expected to remain fresh-looking a short time only. These come in hamper-style, with handles, or in vase-shape. The hamper-baskets

and the handle baskets are usually best suited for use on a buffet, on a hall table or in a window. The baskets in vase-shape are most useful in decorating a large hall or reception-room, as they are generally very tall and lend themselves to graceful adornment around wall-spaces.

The low bowl-like basket (with a tin or earthen container inside) can be used for small growing plants and is effective as a centerpiece on a luncheon table.

While the plain jardinière holding ferns or vines is still seen in many homes, the new home-maker is supplying herself with the lovely new and ornamental stands which hold one bronze bowl or several small pots. And though of course few people can resist the new wall-pockets, which are made up on most graceful lines and are delightfully decorative when filled with blossoms and vines, the window-box is still and always will be, a favorite with many.

CHAPTER III

Flower Arrangement

It has been said that the knack of arranging flowers artistically is a gift of the gods. That may be true, but flower-lovers everywhere have found that with practice they became more or less perfect in this art, whether the gods were good to them or not.

There really are rules governing flower arrangement, and if these are followed the result is more or less satisfactory regardless of the natural ability of the person responsible for it. However, even those persons who have never heard of rules for flower arrangement usually have success in placing blossoms delightfully if they have a sense of proportion, a sense of color harmony, a sense of appropriateness, are at all artistically inclined, and are really individual.

The rules the authorities lay down for flower arrangement are most useful to the novice, and so the most important of them are given below:

1. In decorating churches, large rooms or halls, do not scatter blossoms. Wherever they are used, mass them or their value will be lost.

2. Use big blossoms for decorations in large rooms.

3. So place all floral decorations that they will not inconvenience any one.

4. Take into consideration the interior decorations of a room when choosing either type or color of flowers to be placed therein.

5. Too many colors must not be combined. Two or, at most, three colors are most pleasing together.

6. Short-stemmed, simple posies should be used on small tables or on dressers and for informal entertaining.

7. Blossoms and foliage arranged in vase or basket should be about one and one-half times the height of the container.

8. Small blossoms, such as pansies, violets, etc., look best in a bowl.

9. A flower-holder, sand or pebbles should be placed in a receptacle to hold the first few flowers, as this makes the arrangement of the rest of the blossoms an easier matter.

10. Flowers standing in a flower-holder which is in a bowl, should have foliage or short-stemmed blossoms around their stems and covering the holder, the exception to this rule being that decorative flower-holders with statuette of any kind *may* be left uncovered.

11. "Set bouquets" are never artistic. All flowers in a vase should not be of one height.

12. All bouquets should be arranged loosely.

13. Most flowers look best with their own foliage.

14. An odd number of flowers are more easily arranged artistically than are an even number.

15. Never place foliage under water, as the decaying leaves kill the flowers in the same receptacle.

16. Never put a whole bunch of flowers into a receptacle at one fell swoop, so to speak. Place each blossom into it singly.

17. A bouquet should be considered from every side, as this will insure the creation of a harmonious ensemble.

18. Never "cross" the stems. Flowers do not grow thus, and today more than ever before, Old Mother Nature is considered an authority on flower arrangement.

19. When selecting flowers for a bouquet, choose not only full-blown blossoms, but half-blown blossoms and buds, as well.

20. Flowers which grow in an upright position should usually be placed in a receptacle which emphasizes their form; though daffodils, roses, narcissi, tulips and similar flowers often look well in a bowl.

21. Short-stemmed flowers, such as violets, pansies, etc., should always be placed in a low bowl or basket. Such posies are pleasing when so placed that they cover the flower-holder in which taller blossoms stand.

One of the easiest ways in which to acquire an education in artistic flower arrangement is that of studying nature; but she who examines lovely pictures of flowers will also get a wealth of ideas about line and color arrangement. It is

suggested that all who are interested in perfecting their knowledge in this matter, and in getting new and unusual ideas, visit the art museums and the dealers in works of art. The vendors of paintings have not only lovely flower-pictures by famous artists that they will be glad to show you, but they can often get you, at little cost, small reprints of many of the pictures, and these you can keep on hand to consult. Also, one can purchase color-cards containing valuable information as to color-combinations.

Besides the books on flower arrangement, magazines devoted to beautifying the home and the garden will be sources of great inspiration, as they show lovely pictures of bouquets in the newest vases and other receptacles, and also garden arrangement.

An artistic and clever woman of our acquaintance is making up a scrap-book containing flower-pictures she has clipped from magazines and also exquisite prints of appealing flower-pictures. This is her reference-book for flower arrangement when she is at a loss for other inspiration for table decorations.

Knowing the joy of having beauty around one, and the thrill of creating it, this woman

began early to teach her children how to place a few posies, twigs or foliage attractively. This was one of her " rainy day specials " that saved her from hearing little tots ask, " What shall we do *now?* "

The material she offered was mostly bought at the five-and-ten-cent stores, but it was fascinating. With it, her kiddies made fairy gardens, bird-baths, dish-gardens, ponds and whatnot. Flat saucers, bowls, roasting-pans, old bottles, tall slender vases, shells, toy birds, swans, frogs, ducks, Cupids, chickens, tiny pebbles, sand, twigs, straw-flowers, moss, bulbs — these were transformed as by magic, into intriguing things.

An entrancing bird-bath was made by putting at one side of a saucer a well-shaped bit of moist sand. Small pebbles were scattered over the sides of the sand and over the surface of the bottom of the saucer. Water was poured into the well and small twigs of foliage were stuck into the sand surrounding it. Two paper butterflies on wires hovered over the twigs, a toy bird was perched on the rim of the well, poised as if ready to take a drink and, by means of wax, other birds were placed upon the edge of the saucer.

A fairy garden was made up of straw-flowers, box-wood, pebbles, Cupids and an old witch which seemed to be hiding behind the foliage.

A farmyard was created by covering a board with moss, sticking twigs of foliage into it for trees, stemless straw-flowers into it so they seemed to be growing there, and by standing toy animals upon it. At one end of the moss-plot a tiny house was placed. This had "trees" on either side of it, and a tiny toy vase filled with posies stood on a table on the porch.

A duck-pond was made by filling a moss-covered roasting-pan with water. A sponge-island covered with flowers and vines had twigs of foliage stuck into it for height for the decoration. Perched on the island was a toy frog seemingly about ready to hop into the water. Toy ducks floated upon the pond. To one side of it and perched on the mossy bank of it stood the frightened mother-hen with wings outstretched.

As the home-maker is always eager for hints in flower arrangement for her various rooms, particularly her dining-room, we are giving below descriptions of some charming flower combinations sponsored by prominent florists and hostesses.

At one country home the hostess placed upon

her breakfast table each morning the very brightest blossoms her garden offered. A favorite mantel decoration in this home was a finger-vase filled with garden flowers and fern. This vase was flanked on either side by a statuette. Small jars and tiny baskets held forget-me-nots and baby's-breath in a pink bedroom; yellow nasturtiums in a green crystal bowl in a yellow bedroom; lavender sweet peas in a blue bowl in a mauve bedroom.

The following flowers are suitable for use on the dining-room table for the morning or noon meal:

California poppies and cornflowers
Buttercups and daisies
Pansies and fern
Fruits and fern
Short twigs of flowering fruit blossoms and violets
A single water-lily floating in a low bowl
Nasturtiums
Cosmos
Hollyhock blossoms floating in a bowl
Daisies and cosmos
Pink primroses and ferns
Orange calendulas and white cosmos
Calendulas in green bowl
Mixed sweet-william
Yellow zinnias

Pink geraniums and rose geranium leaves
Crocuses growing in large seashell
Honeysuckle
Clover blossoms
Golden glow
Golden glow and blue stevia
Verbenas
Pinks
Narcissi
Anemones
Begonias
Wild roses
Petunias
Morning-glories

For more or less formal entertaining, the table usually has not only floral decorations, but such additional accessories as bonbon dishes filled with candies or nuts, or candles. The candies or the candles always harmonize in shade with the floral decorations.

A partial list of flowers that combine well and are suitable for the dining-table for the evening meal are:

Tulips and peonies
Daisies and narcissi
Roses, carnation and delphinium
Roses, daisies and spiræa
Roses and lilies-of-the-valley
Orchids and lilies-of-the-valley

Courtesy, Ambassador Flower Shop, N. Y.

FLOWER ARRANGEMENT

Very decorative effects may be achieved by placing flowers in low and high floor vases.

Courtesy, Ambassador Flower Shop, N. Y.

DECORATING THE STAIRWAY

A stairway can be decorated strikingly by using flowers and vines entwined on the banisters, and large blossoms in vases.

Carnations, lilies-of-the-valley and maiden-hair fern
Sweet peas, roses and maiden-hair fern
Fresias, lilies-of-the-valley and violets
Roses, daisies, bouvardia and maiden-hair fern
Pink tulips and white lilacs
Pale blue pansies and red English daisies
Narcissi and forget-me-nots
Pink and purple asters
Bronze and yellow chrysanthemums
Yellow and bronze zinnias
Pink roses and yellow chrysanthemums
Daisies, mignonette and maiden-hair fern

One of New York's smart florists suggests the following combinations for living-room and hall decorations:

Red roses and blue iris
Red roses and mignonette
Poinsettias
Yellow and bronze zinnias
Bronze snapdragons and yellow roses
Bittersweet and Chinese lanterns
Chinese lanterns and oak leaves
Daffodils, daisies and pussy willows

And he has the following suggestions for flower and container combination:

Calla lilies in black pottery vase
Roses in tall crystal vase
Blue delphinium and gladioli in tall, straight, large-mouthed vase

Tiger lilies or Japan lilies in tall crystal vase

Goldenrod and lavender asters in large bowl

Peonies and roses in large bowl

Golden glow and scarlet sage

Calendulas and sweet alyssum in large round bowl

Roses and larkspur in basket or bowl

Heather, poinsettias and either trailing asparagus fern or Boston fern in hamper

Daffodil plants in long narrow green basket

Narcissi and blue delphinium in large-mouthed white vase

Salmon-colored roses and ageratum in blue vase

One of fashionable New York's favorite florists also suggests the following decorations for festivities throughout the year:

December — January

Luncheon for Eight Persons: Red buddleia and blue-lace with own foliage in low black or dark green pottery vase, oval in shape. Number of flowers required: Three dozen buddleia and two dozen blue-lace.

Luncheon for Eight Persons: Red carnations and stevia in silver bowl. Number of flowers required: Three dozen carnations and one bunch of stevia.

Luncheon for Eight Persons: Fruit and flowers. Material required: Oranges, pears, one or two large bunches of purple hothouse grapes, green orchids and maiden-hair fern.

Luncheon for Eight Persons: President Hoover or talisman roses and blue, *not* lavender, sweet peas.

Dinner for Twelve Persons: Red roses and lilies-of-the-valley in crystal vases. Arrangement: One tall vase in center of table, a low oval crystal bowl flanking it on either side. Place two dozen roses and fifty lilies-of-the-valley in the center vase; eighteen roses and twenty-five lilies-of-the-valley in each oval bowl. Cover the base of the center vase with ferns.

Dinner for Twelve Persons: African daisies and blue iris. Material required: One tall slender crystal vase and two small crystal oval vases; three dozen daisies and nine iris for tall vase; two dozen daisies and six iris for each of the small vases.

February — May

Luncheon for Eight Persons: Daffodils and lavender sweet peas. Material required: One large round or oval bowl; two small round or oval bowls; three dozen daffodils and fifty sweet peas. So arrange the flowers in each bowl that the daffodils stand upright and are flanked on either side by the sweet peas, massed. Do not mix the two kinds of flowers, but keep each distinct.

Luncheon for Eight Persons: Darwin tulips in flat pottery bowl. Two or three varieties may be used, as Darwin tulips seem to have been grown by nature to mix.

Another suggestion given for either luncheon or dinner table decoration, preferably dinner, is

mimosa and purple orchids, or mimosa and African daisies. Arrange in one tall crystal vase and two small oval vases. Scatter the orchids or daisies among the mimosa.

Summer Months

For summer months, always use garden flowers. Be careful to arrange the blossoms loosely and do not put too many in a vase.

October — November

Dahlias alone or yellow dahlias and eupatorium. Chrysanthemums in shades of bronze and yellow.

Luncheon for Eight Persons: Montbretia and blue-lace. Material required: Four dozen montbretia and two dozen blue-lace. These flowers should be placed in a low bowl.

CHAPTER IV

When Flowers are Scarce

There need be no blossomless winter in the home today. And she who with great regret says good-by to her garden of a past summer, resigned to suffer and wait till spring and another summer once again restore its departed glory has surprises galore in store for her once she starts in to discover ways and means by which she may surround herself with living plants and colorful posies all through the long, bleak, intervening months.

"Maybe," says the doubter, "but when the bills from the coal-man make cash (as well as flowers) scarce, it's difficult!"

That is a problem, indeed; but if you are one of those knowing women, you have learned that a home should be a haven of beauty and cheer and that nothing lends so much charm to your rooms as do a few posies or plants tastefully placed therein. And so, somehow, you will be

able to find a way by which you can supply yourself with these "necessary luxuries" at a minimum cost.

In the first place, quantity is not necessary to make an attractive floral display. You know that, if you have ever looked into the way in which the Japanese group blossoms, or if you have ever seen a single rose floating in a bowl. You know it, too, if you have ever lovingly tended a dying bunch of posies and almost tenderly fussed with the surviving few in your efforts to so arrange them that their presence might breathe out a welcome, as it were, to all who cross your threshold.

There are several things to remember about keeping alive plants or flowers in the steam-heated house. They are:

1. Plants should always be placed in unglazed earthen pots, as the porous character of such pots allows for the necessary air and drainage.

2. Though plants to be healthy must be in unglazed pots, it does them no harm if they then be put into jardinières or other decorative receptacles. Of course, such receptacles are necessary if an artistic effect is to be achieved. However, the jardinière should be large enough to permit plenty of air-circulation around the plant and to allow the pot to be placed upon saucer or other means of support, so as to raise it above drained

water that would otherwise prove injurious to the roots of the plant.

3. Boston ferns, begonias, Wandering Jew, geraniums, verbenas, violets and any of the hardy bulb plants are suitable for window-boxes. The soil should be kept moist but not wet, it being better to water often and lightly instead of heavily and infrequently. During the cloudy winter weather, window-boxes need watering only once or twice a week. In sunshiny weather they should be watered at least every other day. Of course, dried-up or shriveled leaves must be picked off plants every day.

4. Cut flowers should be placed loosely in receptacles which hold plenty of water, so that the stems may not be crowded and may be well covered — and so that artistic arrangement is possible.

5. Each night the stems should be washed and clipped off crosswise, placing them in water at once.

6. Always put flowers in a cool place at night.

7. Never place flowers where they will be in a draft.

8. Flowers last longer if in the morning they are put into a pan or tub of water. They should be placed therein horizontally. It does them good to have both stems and blossoms in the water a short time. Upon removing them, shake the water from the blossoms before placing the stems in a vase.

9. Never keep flowers near a radiator.

10. Flowers that are drooping or shriveled can usually be revived if salt, aspirin or spirits of camphor be put into the water in which they stand. *Hot* water (as warm as your hand can stand) freshens up blossoms

if the stems be immersed in it, clipped under the water and immediately plunged into a receptacle filled with hot water. (Some authorities claim that one must cover the blossoms with the hand while using hot water on the stems, but we have found that with speedy work, this is unnecessary.)

So much for the care of plants and flowers in the home. And now comes a partial list of those which are most popular and that are most satisfactory and delightful accessories to the interior decoration of the house.

First, let us consider the cost of " upkeep " of winter floral decorations. All who have ever permitted themselves the treat of enhancing the beauty of the rooms of their domicile with such decorations have found it more of a sacrifice to be without them than to be without some of the so-called necessities of life. They form a background, as it were, which no woman of charm can afford to be without.

The most inexpensive plants to keep in the home are all varieties of ferns, except maidenhair fern, Wandering Jew, sweet potato vines, ivy, geraniums, begonias and bulb plants. The soft green leaves which appear when grapefruit seeds are planted in an earthen pot and are well watered, make a cheap but fresh-looking deco-

ration for the small dining-room table or for the kitchen window. A chive plant in a gaily colored pot is useful for the kitchen, too. Other plants that are pleasing in the home are: rose geranium, shamrock, cactus, spider plant, aralia, Rex begonia, palms of many varieties, croton, umbrella plant, holly fern, rubber plant; also maiden-hair fern, though this is very delicate and hard to keep alive.

All flowering plants are effective, and a visit to your local florist will prove to you that your home may be a-bloom throughout the year.

Bulbs that grow in water are entrancing, lasting and inexpensive winter decorations. Particularly is this so, if they be made into "floating gardens." A very clever way to create these floating gardens is to plant the bulbs upon flat pieces of cork. Holes must first be made in the center big enough to allow the root-end to penetrate through into the water. The bulbs are then placed on the cork and into a bowl of water and set away in a dark closet till the roots appear. At this stage, bring the bulbs out into the light and when the leaves begin to bud, cover the cork with moss or with grass seeds. We saw such a floating garden in a charm-

ing country home. This garden had crocuses abloom in it.

If you will scan your seed catalogue or visit your florist you will learn of many other bulb plants which are easily grown in water and will be big aids in decorative schemes in the home.

All flowering plants and all cut flowers which have several blossoms on each stem are economical ones for winter bouquets, for as soon as one blossom dies another seems to come into bloom.

Many of the greens usually employed as foliage in baskets, hampers and with cut flowers may be used alone to give a bit of freshness in a room. Asparagus fern looks well for many days if placed in a bowl without water, even. Maiden-hair fern, though perishable, presents a very dainty appearance whether growing in a pot or standing in a vase, as a bouquet. Trailing asparagus, trailing pine, smilax, mistletoe, holly and most of the popular ferns lend themselves to such treatment.

When it comes to providing yourself with cut flowers, you can supply your home with bouquets that come from greenhouses, from field, from forest, or from your own garden. Your

choice need only depend upon your taste, your bank account or your residence.

If your purse will permit the purchase of hot-house-grown blossoms, you can have what you will, for today the florists can grant your heart's desire, almost, no matter what the season. And don't forget that a few perfect flowers tastefully aranged are always more pleasing than are many badly placed.

In the great outdoors there are many grasses, weeds, leaves, berries and flowers that can be had for the taking, so to speak, which will last throughout the winter. The most popular of these are wheat and oats, the mullen dock, milkweed pods, barberries, bayberries, bitter-sweet, holly, mistletoe, pine branches and cones, fall leaves and sumach. From your garden you can get Chinese lanterns, honesty, cockscomb and straw-flowers, to mention the favorites with those who have realized their decorative charm in the weary months of winter.

The little straw-flowers (called by some "Everlasting" or "Immortelles") could well have a chapter devoted to their usefulness. They come in white, in yellow, in brown, in red, in rose, in pink, in lavender, in purple and in

silver; and so bouquets which are composed of them may be a perfect riot of color. They are pretty when freshly cut, but they are also lovely to look upon when dried. To prepare them for winter use, cut them just before they are in full bloom and strip them of their foliage. Tie them together in bunches and hang them, head down, in a dry room. (It aids in graceful arrangement later, if a few of the blossoms have the stems dried over a curved surface.)

In making up bouquets of dried straw-flowers, be careful not to break off the stems of the blossoms. They are very brittle. It makes for easier arrangement if the receptacle into which the flowers are to be placed be centered with a flower-holder or be filled with sand. Always place some foliage with the blossoms. Boxwood, fern, pine and asparagus fern are useful for this purpose and appropriate to combine with straw-flowers.

CHAPTER V

Flower Gifts and How to Give Them

There was a time when only residents of cities large enough to support good florists could send flower gifts to friends at home and abroad. But that time is past. No matter where you live today, you can order as many or as few posies as your good taste — or your purse — may dictate and be sure they will be delivered in a fresh state whersoever the recipient may reside. Florists everywhere can and will see to it that you are not only satisfied, but delighted as well, with the way in which your commission is filled. Nor is this all. In nearly every town and city there are one or more florists who will take standing orders for flowers to be delivered each week-end. They do not stipulate how much or how little you must spend. Some of them will deliver as little as fifty cents' worth. Sweethearts, husbands and sons are great devotees of this mode of giving. They find it a godsend when business, traveling or a for-

getful mind might make them overlook the little love-offerings that are so dear to every woman's heart, be she sixteen or a hundred! Many heads of big corporations arrange by this method to have fresh flowers each morning on the desk of each official. They claim it seems to start the whole force off right.

Of all the gifts possible, flowers are the most universally popular with women, or as tributes to accomplishments, as *bon voyage* presents and as expressions of sympathy in times of grief, to the members of both sexes. But in your giving, be sure your offering is appropriate to the occasion and for the recipient; also that it is presented in a fashion both charming and usable.

There are many things to remember in gift-giving. One has to consider whether the overture is made to one living in a mansion or a cottage; whether it is made to a mere acquaintance or to an old friend; whether to some one in a new home, in a hotel, in a hospital, or to some one departing on a journey; whether to the aged or to the young; to celebrate a birthday or other anniversary, a christening, or a graduation; whether as a love-token or as a peace-offering.

She who lives in a mansion can use with taste flowers with stems that have been "paid for by the yard," for she has innumerable rooms for which they will be appropriate. She who lives in a cottage gets her best decorative values from dainty, short-stemmed blossoms.

Flowers sent to mere acquaintances for courtesy purposes should be chosen carefully. Many times gorgeous bouquets are returned to the giver because the recipient considers them to be in the nature of a bribe. This is a common occurence when business men send expensive flowers to the wife of a man to whom they hope to make a big sale. To your own friends, send what you know to be their favorites or whatever to you seems suited to their personality.

Friends moving into a new home are always appreciative when flowers are sent as a welcome. The blossoms seem to promise happiness and joy to come in the new domicile and they make a bright spot in a topsy-turvy place. But often vases and other receptacles are not available in the first few days of settling. So for floral gifts sent at such a time, cut flowers should be sent in a vase, in baskets or in hampers, and plants should be sent in jardinières, in flowerpot stands, in boxes, in baskets or hampers.

Floral gifts sent to hotel or hospital should also be sent in receptacles in which they may remain, for there is usually a scarcity of such receptacles in all but the most de luxe of such establishments.

When sending plants or flowers to the sick, whether they be at home or in a hospital, you should consider the nature of the illness of the recipient. In any event, heavily scented flowers are not suitable gifts for the sick. To any one whose vision is impaired, however, delicately fragrant blossoms will give more pleasure than will scentless flowers. To such persons, for instance, orchids will mean nothing, while roses, violets, sweet peas, lilies-of-the-valley and other delicately perfumed blossoms will give great joy. Even bouquets of dried flowers will lend cheer to the sick-room. Each year the florists are arranging these everlasting posies in more artistic ways. At present, a smart florist in New York is displaying fascinating little "trees" made of Chinese lanterns. The lanterns are widely opened and seem an entirely new "flower." The trees are planted in entrancing pots of contrasting shades.

For going-away gifts, it is better to send flowers that are made up into corsages, into

boutonnières, or those that have been placed in basket or hamper, though there are occasions when cut flowers to be used in a vase will be appreciated. There are few women who will not thrill over a corsage of violets, of gardenias, of sweet peas, of roses, of lilies-of-the-valley or of orchids. Such gifts are especially popular with the woman who is taking a short journey by train. They are also pleasing to the traveler bound for foreign lands.

Women are not the only ones to thrill over flowers to wear when on a trip. One of New York's favorite florists reveals the fact that men are very keen about the boutonnières sent them as *bon voyage* gifts. This florist says men positively strut when they can appear each day of a sea voyage with a different boutonnière in coat lapel. These boutonnières are so packed that they remain fresh through the voyage. They usually consist of a carnation, a tiny orchid, some ragged robins, sweet peas and other small blossoms.

It is very satisfactory to present *bon voyage* flowers in basket or hamper. Thus placed, they last quite a long time; they are showy and they are easily cared for. Even men embarking on an ocean voyage do not spurn such offerings. Un-

less one's cabin be extremely large, it is difficult to keep all the flowers received in it, and the basket or hamper lends itself to effective table or buffet decoration in the dining-salon — where most flowers usually land after the first few hours from shore.

Should you be presented with a *bon voyage* gift of cut flowers for which you cannot secure enough receptacles, it is usually possible to have them put in the refrigerating-room of the ship, so that towards the end of the voyage they may still give pleasure to you and to your fellow-passengers. Some years ago on a ship bound for Brazil, we placed some roses, in their box, in the refrigerating-room. The night before landing in Rio de Janeiro — over two weeks later — we took them out to present to a young girl who was disembarking on the following day to become the bride of a Brazilian. The buds were just as they had been when received in New York, but when the warm tropical air hit them they became lovely full-bloom blossoms almost immediately.

The aged usually like old-fashioned posies, which with their sweet scent bring back dreams of a romantic youth. Any of the following will appeal strongly to them, whether the gift be

presented as cut flowers or as a plant: Heliotrope, violets, lilies-of-the-valley, pinks, lavender, lemon verbena, honeysuckle, tuberoses, peonies, roses, rosemary, lilacs, carnations, and mignonette, of the sweet-scented posies; and geraniums, poppies, bleeding-heart, fuchsias, iris, tiger lilies, forget-me-nots, begonias, asters, daisies, wallflowers, primroses, Canterbury bells, cornflowers, hollyhocks, roses of Sharon, marigolds, four-o'clocks, nasturtiums, pansies, hardy chrysanthemums, cosmos, dahlias, larkspur, golden glow, scarlet sage, zinnias and crab cactus, of the unscented floral gifts.

The modern matron or miss may like any of the above-mentioned flowers or plants, too, but it is much more likely that either some luxurious flower or plant will be preferred or that, given a choice, flowers or plants just coming into season and appropriate to the recipient's surroundings will be in favor. And, of course, all moderns thrill over corsages!

In making birthday gifts of flowers, a certain charm is achieved if the offering contain the birth-flower of the recipient. It is said to be good luck to wear or have near one the flower which has been assigned to the month in which one was born. And no matter when the birthday

comes, it is always good luck to wear lilies-of-the-valley in May! Just as authorities differ as to which is the birth-stone of each month, so do they differ concerning the birth-flower. Therefore, both of the accepted lists for these flowers are given below. Take your choice.

January: *Wild rose*
February: *Pink*
March: *Violet*
April: *Easter lily*
May: *Lily-of-the-valley*
June: *Rose*
July: *Daisy*
August: *Water-lily*
September: *Poppy*
October: *Cosmos*
November: *Chrysanthemum*
December: *Holly*

January: *Snowdrop*
February: *Primrose*
March: *Violet*
April: *Daisy*
May: *Hawthorne*
June: *Wild rose*
July: *Water-lily*
August: *Poppy*
September: *Morning-glory*
October: *Nasturtium*
November: *Chrysanthemum*
December: *Holly*

Mothers of new-born babes are always sent posies. On this occasion, and also on the occasion of the christening, the birth-flower of the new-born should be used, and so should other blossoms dainty in form, in scent and in color be featured. Sweetheart roses, baby's-breath, pale rosebuds, delphinium, lilies-of-the-valley, forget-me-nots, sweet peas, daisies and similar simple flowers are invaluable in making up bouquets or in furnishing decoration for church or home.

STUNT DECORATIONS FOR FESTIVITIES

This is an appropriate decoration for a Pioneer party or for Lincoln's Birthday.

CHINESE LANTERNS FOR A WINTER TABLE

When flowers are scarce, Chinese lanterns or other dried flowers or bright berries may be used.

Courtesy, Biltmore Hotel, N. Y.

FLOWER GIFTS

An attractive arrangement of flowers presented by her intimate friends to a hostess sponsoring a large tea.

The florists are now making up very lovely floral gifts for the baby too. One of the leading florists in New York City says that she has many calls for such gifts, and the favorites are: a fancy rattle bedecked with posies, a doll's cradle containing a baby-doll surrounded by flowers, a silver drinking-cup filled with tiny blossoms, a silver porridge bowl filled with short-stemmed blossoms.

There are many festivities just before graduation at which the participants need flowers. In some of the fashionable boarding-schools the flowers the girls wear or carry at their class supper and at other parties, are quite as important to them as are their gowns. It is not an unusual custom for these girls to have the best florist in a near-by city come to the school to see them and their gowns. The florist sizes up the girl's personality, or rather type, and notes the color of her wearing-apparel for the specific occasion. The tall stately miss is sent long-stemmed gorgeous blossoms of the various shades which harmonize with the gown to be worn. Such a bouquet is usually made up in sheaf-style, to be carried on the arm. The baby-faced miss gets a shower-bouquet of daintily colored flowers, and yards and yards of rainbow-hued tulle float

from it. Sometimes, this type of girl gets a Colonial bouquet. The dashing type gets gardenias, orchids or other luxurious flowers, and they are usually made up into muffs.

Seldom do graduates carry flowers at graduation today, though they frequently wear a single blossom which has been chosen as the class-flower. Even in the public schools the sending of flowers to the exercises is now looked upon with disfavor. But no graduation would seem complete to the girl-graduate — or to her mother and friends — if flowers didn't form a part of her gift-collection. In colleges and in boarding-schools, the flowers received are artistically placed in a reception-room, that all may see and enjoy them. The showiest flower-gift for such use is that of cut flowers arranged in basket or hamper. Next to this, the large shower-bouquet or the sheaf makes the best display. But the corsage of exquisite blossoms has a very warm spot in the heart of her who loves to wear flowers.

Flowers galore must be sent to the débutante when she makes her bow to society. They need be no different from those sent to the sweet girl-graduate, however, as the recipient in each case should be showered with fresh, lovely blos-

soms of a delicate, youthful-looking type, in dainty hues.

One can do a lot of silent talking with flowers, for, according to tradition, they not only have a meaning all their own, but they speak volumes even by the manner in which they are arranged or presented. For instance, a rosebud with its thorns removed, says, "I fear no longer; I hope." If both thorns and leaves be removed, the meaning is, "There is neither anything to fear nor to hope for." A full-blown rose placed on two buds, signifies "Secrecy." One says "Yes" when touching the flowers with the lips, and "No" by pinching off a petal and flinging it away. A laurel leaf twined around a bouquet says, "I am." An ivy leaf folded together signifies "I have," and a leaf of Virginia creeper expresses "I offer you."

Here is the traditional language of flowers:

Arbor Vitæ: *Unchanging friendship*
Camellia, White: *Loveliness*
Candytuft: *Indifference*
Carnation, White: *Disdain*
China Aster: *Variety*
Clover, Four-leaf: *Be mine*
Clover, White: *Think of me*
Clover, Red: *Industry*
Columbine: *Folly*
Daisy: *Innocence*
Daisy, Colored: *Beauty*

Dead Leaves: *Sadness*
Deadly Nightshade: *Falsehood*
Ferns: *Fascination*
Forget-me-not: *Forget me not*
Fuchsia, Scarlet: *Taste*
Geranium, Horseshoe: *Stupidity*
Geranium, Scarlet: *Consolation*
Geranium, Rose: *Preference*
Goldenrod: *Be cautious*
Heliotrope: *Devotion*
Hyacinth, White: *Loveliness*
Hyacinth, Purple: *Sorrow*
Ivy: *Friendship*
Jasmine, White: *Amiability*
Lily, Day: *Coquetry*
Lily, White: *Sweetness*
Lily, Yellow: *Gaiety*
Lily-of-the-valley: *Unconscious sweetness*
Mignonette: *Your qualities surpass your charms*
Monkshood: *Danger is near*
Myrtle: *Love*
Oak: *Hospitality*
Orange Blossoms: *Chastity*
Pansy: *Thoughts*
Passion-flower: *Faith*
Primrose: *Inconstancy*
Rose: *Love*
Rose, Damask: *Beauty ever new*
Rose, Yellow: *Jealousy*
Rose, White: *I am worthy of you*
Rosebud, Moss: *Confession of Love*
Smilax: *Constancy*
Straw: *Agreement*
Straw, Broken: *Broken Agreement*
Sweet Pea: *Depart*
Thistle: *Sternness*
Tuberose: *Dangerous Pleasures*
Verbena: *Pray for me*
Water-lily: *Purity of heart*
Witch-hazel: *A spell*

Moss rosebud and myrtle: *A confession of love.*

Mignonette and colored daisy: *Your qualities surpass your charms of beauty.*

Lily-of-the-valley and ferns: *Your unconscious sweetness has fascinated me.*

Yellow rose, broken straw and ivy: *Your jealousy has broken our friendship.*

Scarlet geranium, passion flower, purple hyacinth and arbor vitæ: *I trust you will find consolation, through faith, in your sorrow; be assured of my unchanging friendship.*

Columbine, day lily, broken straw, witch-hazel and colored daisy: *Your folly and coquetry have broken the spell of your beauty.*

White pink, canary grass and laurel: *Your talent and perseverance will win you glory.*

Goldenrod, monkshood, sweet pea and forget-me-not: *Be cautious; danger is near; I depart soon; forget me not.*

It has been the gracious custom of all time to send flowers to performing artists and to visitors. When the performer or the visitor comes from another State or from another country, gifts of native flowers are much appreciated. In the two lists below are the State flowers and the national flowers. Though the flowers listed as belonging to State or nation are those said to be their adopted flowers, some of them have not yet been officially thus christened, in spite of

the fact that association has made them so in most people's minds.

State Flowers

Alabama: *Goldenrod*
Arizona: *Sahuaro cactus*
Arkansas: *Apple blossom*
California: *Golden poppy*
Colorado: *Columbine*
Connecticut: *Mountain laurel*
Delaware: *Peach blossom*
District of Columbia: *None*
Florida: *Orange blossom*
Georgia: *Cherokee rose*
Idaho: *Syringa*
Illinois: *Wood violet*
Indiana: *Carnation*
Iowa: *Wild rose*
Kansas: *Sunflower*
Kentucky: *Trumpet-vine*
Louisiana: *Magnolia*
Maine: *Pine-cone*
Maryland: *Black-eyed Susan*
Massachusetts: *Mayflower*
Michigan: *Apple blossom*
Minnesota: *Moccasin-flower*
Mississippi: *Magnolia*
Missouri: *Goldenrod*
Montana: *Bitter-root*
Nebraska: *Goldenrod*
Nevada: *Sagebrush*
New Hampshire: *Purple lilac*
New Jersey: *Violet*
New Mexico: *Cactus*
New York: *Rose*
North Carolina: *Goldenrod*
North Dakota: *Wild prairie rose*
Ohio: *Scarlet carnation*
Oklahoma: *Mistletoe*
Oregon: *Oregon grape*
Pennsylvania: *None*
Rhode Island: *Violet*
South Carolina: *None*
South Dakota: *Anemone*
Tennessee: *Passion-flower*
Texas: *Bluebonnet*
Utah: *Sego lily*
Virginia: *American dogwood*
Vermont: *Red clover*

Washington: *Rhododendron*
West Virginia: *Rhododendron*
Wisconsin: *Violet*
Wyoming: *Indian paintbrush*

National Flowers

United States: *Goldenrod*
Canada: *Maple Leaf*
Egypt: *Lotus*
England: *Rose*
France: *Fleur-de-lis*
Germany: *Cornflower*
Holland: *Tulip*
Ireland: *Shamrock*
Italy: *Poppy*
Mexico: *Cactus*
Scotland: *Thistle*
Spain: *Pomegranate*
Switzerland: *Edelweiss*

The woman giving a large tea rather expects her intimate friends to help her fill her home with blossoms. For the most part, such gifts should be sent in decorative baskets, as should floral gifts sent to performers.

A word of warning must be sounded concerning the sending of flowers or of any gifts, to mere acquaintances. Many women are "touchy" about receiving gifts from any but friends. Some hostesses are offended if a guest brings flowers when invited to dinner. They say the guest is "paying for his dinner." The hostess to whom you send word an hour before a dinner is scheduled, that you'll be unable to appear, is often highly indignant when you send

her a peace-offering, though why, it is hard to understand. So know your hostess and her whims before you send her gifts of any kind.

When friends or family are returning from a journey, don't let them come into a blossomless house! Flowers seem to send out a welcome, and their presence in the dullest room in even a long-closed-up home gives the whole place life.

Much of the gay appearance of the football crowd depends upon the wearing of flowers by the followers of the teams. So if you are a woman, even if the man escorting you to the game doesn't supply a bouquet for you, get yourself a flower of the college you favor and pin it on where it will be seen by all. And if you are a man going alone, do likewise.

Since athletic contests began, it has been customary to give a prize to the winner. For many years now, the silver loving cup has been the most popularly used article for the prize. Recently, it has become the fashion to present the cup filled with blossoms, and it makes the gift seem many times more attractive.

By some authorities ribbons are tabooed on flowers or on baskets holding flowers. But one has only to visit the establishment of a modern florist to discover the charm of ribbon acces-

sories in shades harmonizing with the colors of the blossoms or the flowering plants they adorn.

In giving presents of any kind, or in presenting prizes, flowers and ribbons add much to the beauty of the package they bedeck. A single blossom or a corsage topping a parcel and tied to it with a ribbon of a matching or a harmonizing shade, or a shower of posies knotted in the ends of a ribbon with which the gift is tied, lends an unusual, dainty and distinctive touch to the ensemble.

When Mother's Day was first celebrated, the florists tried to establish the white carnation as Mother's Gift. But they found that many a mother wanted something more colorful. That, however, was not the main reason the white carnation was abandoned for this occasion. The venders of flowers could not supply the demand without over-charging for the carnation, so they gave it up. This case of the Mother's Day gift taught the florists a valuable lesson; such a valuable one, in fact, that when now asked what flowers or plants to give on special holidays they are loath to advise.

For those who wish to know what flowers are appropriate for certain occasions, the following list is given of flowers that custom or legend has

associated with specific seasons and dates, or that in color, name or form seem ideal gifts through the year.

January: New Year's Day — Mistletoe. It is said that good luck comes to the home in which mistletoe hangs on New Year's Day.

February: Lincoln's Birthday — Flowers of red, white and blue.

Valentine's Day — Tulips; forget-me-nots; sweetheart roses; bleeding hearts.

Washington's Birthday — Same as for Lincoln's Birthday; also, Colonial bouquets, Lady Washington geranium, and cherry-tree plants.

March: St. Patrick's Day — Shamrock; Killarney roses; and flowers that have been tinted green.

April: Spring flowers or Easter lilies.

May: May-Day — Garlands of vines and spring flowers; May-baskets filled with wild-flowers.

Mother's Day — Mother's favorites.

Decoration Day — Flowers in the colors of the flag.

Don't forget that it is good luck to wear lilies-of-the-valley in this month!

June: Flag Day — Flowers similar to those suggested for Washington's Birthday.

Graduation — Flowers of dainty hue suitable to youth.

The Bride — Roses; orange blossoms; gardenias; calla lilies; lilies-of-the-valley; orchids; sweet peas.

July: July 4th — Same type of flowers as suggested for Flag Day.

August: Vines; garden flowers; water-lilies; early fall flowers.

September: Early fall flowers and fruits, especially grapes.

October: Columbus Day — American wild flowers.

Hallow-e'en — Ears of corn; corn stalks; pumpkins filled with chrysanthemums, with fall leaves or fall berries.

November: Thanksgiving Day — Horn-of-Plenty filled with fruits or fall flowers; cranberries bedecked with ferns.

December: Christmas Day — Holly; mistletoe; poinsettia; pine.

CHAPTER VI

Flowers to Wear or Carry

Nothing gives a man or woman such a feeling of being well-groomed as does the wearing of a flower or flowers. Nothing gives so much pleasure to those who see one, either. And the carrying of flowers seems an essential part of the ensemble of the miss who attends certain special festivities or takes part in a wedding.

But flowers worn or carried must be appropriate to the garb and to the occasion; and they must seem to be a part of the wearer, so to speak, if they would produce the greatest appeal. The following points are worthy of note in selecting flowers for personal adornment; for gifts; for portable bouquets.

1. A small bouquet should be selected for wear on the *coat-lapel.* For men, it must be only a single blossom and perhaps a bit of green, or a tiny bouquet of small flowers. For ladies, it may be a single blossom or a small bouquet, a bit larger than the man should wear, however. This type of bouquet is just right for the tailored suit.

2. Flowers should harmonize in color with the suit or gown worn, whether they be pinned on or be carried on the arm.

3. Large corsages may, with propriety, be worn with a dressy suit or with an afternoon or evening gown.

4. Dainty bouquets in pastel shades suit dainty women best. And they are most appropriate for the light frock. The big, stunning woman carries well, either on her person or on her arm, the more dignified bouquet, and such a bouquet may be composed of deep, richly colored blossoms.

5. When selecting a bouquet to present to a woman, try to find out, if possible, what color the dress may be she expects to wear for the specific occasion for which the bouquet is to be given.

There was a time when the wearing of flowers was considered woman's privilege alone. At least, most men so thought of the matter. There were a few, however, who since their earliest days of manhood realized their right to be individual and so they made it a daily habit to wear a flower on coat-lapel. Nor did they stop at that. They were as particular as any woman to select a blossom that was appropriate to the suit worn and that seemed to fit in with their general appearance. We remember a charming white-haired doctor who always appeared in a gray suit with a small red carnation in his button-

hole, and we recall a business man with blue eyes who always wore a dark blue suit, on the coat-lapel of which was a ragged robin or other blue blossom. And the color of his eyes seemed to be emphasized by his blue flower.

But the poor men have a hard time of it keeping their boutonnières! Someone always wants them, and it is said that in the downtown business section of New York City, the kiddies lie in wait for the lords of finance and beg to be given the blossoms that have bedecked them during the day. The custom of the wearing of flowers by men is increasing so in popularity that today many florists have boutonnières ready, in the early morning, so that their regular customers — and possible new ones — who drop in, may snatch a freshly cut flower for their coat-lapels before appearing at their offices.

Since the beginning of the world, it seems, flowers have spoken the language of love and romance. No little attention so pleases the average man as to have a charming girl or woman pin a flower on him. Men have fought for a blossom worn in a lady-love's hair or on her bodice, and many a girl has tenderly pressed one or more posies from a bouquet given her by the

man-of-her-dreams. We have to be emotionally and esthetically dead not to thrill over these love-gifts. However, there are a few women who do not like to wear flowers. Some of these say that flowers wilt on them and they give as their reason for not wishing to wear blossoms, that they cannot bear to see them die. The old saying is that " Flowers wilt when worn by a fickle woman ! " So that gives them away !

The shoulder bouquet is in great favor now and is most effective on the one-piece dress for daytime wear or for the evening gown. This is the best type of bouquet for the large-busted woman to wear, as it does not emphasize her size, but instead, directs attention to itself at her loveliest line. Young girls find the bouquet tied to the arm a fetching adornment with the evening gown, and they also find it a great convenience when dancing, for, worn there, flowers do not get crushed.

A fascinating way to wear flowers is to have them so placed on the gown that they seem to be a part of it. And there are many intriguing ways in which to do this, particularly on dresses for costume balls. One charming miss, dressed in the garb of far-away days, wore one of those tight-bodiced, low-necked gowns with narrow

straps over the shoulders and the neck-line dropping off the shoulders. Flowers outlined the neck-line and a wreath of the same kind of flowers bedecked her hair.

Another miss, in a tight-bodiced and full-skirted frock, had flowers bordering the tarlatan flounces of the skirt. A singer appeared in a frock composed entirely of flowers and foliage. Of course, a muslin slip formed the foundation.

Children always love to wear fancy costumes and they have many occasions to do so. A party is ever so much more intriguing to them if they wear especially "partyfied" clothes. They seem to be able to perform better if they have out-of-the-ordinary duds to wear in school or Sunday-school programs. If you will think over these affairs you will remember that favorite costumes for children are usually fashioned to represent flowers. Sometimes they are of crape paper, sometimes of tarlatan, sometimes of silk and sometimes of cheesecloth. Any of these materials may be used as foundation for a costume bedecked with real blossoms.

A most fetching costume may be fashioned of tarlatan to represent a flower-basket. It

Courtesy, Irene Hayes, N. Y.

THE BRIDAL BOUQUET

A shower bouquet of white orchids and lilies-of-the-valley.

FANCY COSTUMES

Natural flowers make stunning costumes for fancy dress affairs. Here, Billie Dove is seen in a gown made of five hundred American beauty roses.

should be made very narrow at the knees and very wide at the hips, where a pocket on each hip provides a receptacle for posies. A covered wire handle entwined with vines, tacked to the waist-line at each side and extending over the head in an arch may complete the costume.

An elf may be dressed in a costume of brown material which is bedecked with foliage.

A costume for St. Patrick's Day may have the lower part of the bodice and the upper part of the skirt of green satin or silk. The top of the bodice and the bottom of the skirt may be of white tarlatan. Bits of shamrock may be tacked onto the white material in bodice and skirt and around the neck-line. A wreath of Killarney roses may be worn on the hair.

A Chinese costume is easily made by using a pair of silk pajama pants and a Coolie coat. Chrysanthemums are then tucked into the hair over each ear.

An autumn costume may be in the shades of this season. The skirt may be fashioned of dozens of leaf-shaped ruffles. Leaf-shaped pieces of the material may be tacked onto the bodice. The shoulder straps may be covered with real foliage and tiny fall blossoms. Vines

may be tacked to the skirt at the waist line and fall at uneven lengths from it. A wreath of foliage and blossoms may be worn on the hair.

A rose costume may have a skirt of pink petals of silk. The edges of the petals are rolled over wire and tacked on the right side of the material to make them seem real. A calyx made of green satin encircles the waist-line. The bodice is of pink silk. Sprays of green leaves are tacked to the frock at the waist and extend over the shoulders and around the neck.

Bouquets made up for women to wear are fashioned into nosegays; into corsages; as necklace, bracelets, and hair wreaths; or as garlands. The boutonnière is for the tailored suit and is worn on the coat-lapel.

The bouquets that are usually carried are made up into Colonial bouquets; into shower bouquets; in sheaf style; into fan-shape; into muffs; are tied to a shepherd's crook, or are placed in a basket, the last two types of bouquets being used more at weddings.

A word of warning should be sounded concerning the size or weight of the bouquet or the basket carried by the bride or by her attendants. For though the floral display should be as gorgeous as possible, it must not be too

heavy to carry with ease. And tiny tots should never be overburdened.

The following flower combinations make exquisite corsages:

1. Orchids, lilies-of-the-valley and maiden-hair fern.
2. Pink roses, lavender and white sweet peas with maiden-hair fern.
3. Salmon-colored roses and lilies-of-the-valley.
4. Sweet peas, lilies-of-the-valley and maiden-hair fern.
5. Violets, freesias and maiden-hair fern.
6. Violets centered with pink or red rose.
7. Violets centered with gardenia.
8. Violets and sweet peas.
9. Violets and sweetheart roses.
10. Violets and lilies-of-the-valley.
11. Violets and bouvardias.
12. Bouvardias and roses.
13. Varicolored anemones and maiden-hair fern.
14. Daisies (white or yellow) and maiden-hair fern.
15. Sweetheart roses and baby's breath.
16. Sweetheart roses and forget-me-nots.
17. Pansies and maiden-hair fern.
18. Daisies and sweet peas.
19. Yellow daisies and mignonette.

Nosegays, Colonial bouquets, necklaces, etc., and garlands, are most effective if made up of dainty vines and small blossoms.

A Valentine necklace one man sent to his

sweetheart was composed of forget-me-nots. A heart-shaped pendant of the blossoms hung from the chain.

The bridegroom usually wears a boutonnière composed of any small white blossom that is going into his bride's bouquet. Favorite boutonnières for him, his best man and his ushers are:

Lilies-of-the-valley and maiden-hair fern.

Carnation with or without fern.

A rosebud.

Sweet peas.

If the bride carries large blossoms only, her bridegroom usually wears a rose, a carnation or lilies-of-the-valley.

It is customary for the bridegroom to furnish the bride's bouquet, the flowers her attendants carry, flowers for his mother and for the bride's mother also, and for his own attendants.

The bride may carry a Colonial bouquet, a shower bouquet, a flower-muff, or a sheaf. If she prefers, she may carry a flower-and-ribbon marker in her prayer-book.

The following bouquets and prayer-book markers are a few that have been favorites with recent smart brides:

Shower Bouquets

Any of the following can be made up as either the regulation shower bouquet or as the muff-shower bouquet. White or silver ribbons should be used with them.

1. Bride roses and lilies-of-the-valley.
2. White orchids, lilies-of-the-valley and maiden-hair fern.
3. Gardenias, lilies-of-the-valley and fern.
4. White sweet peas and lilies-of-the-valley.
5. White daisies and maiden-hair fern.
6. White carnations, lilies-of-the-valley and maiden-hair fern.
7. White carnations, lilies-of-the-valley and asparagus fern.
8. White cosmos and maiden-hair fern.
9. White chrysanthemums with pompon shower.
10. White hyacinths with shower of lilies-of-the-valley.

Sheaf Bouquets

The most popular sheaf bouquet for brides is that composed of calla lilies. Sometimes, they have only their own foliage and sometimes they have maiden-hair fern and asparagus fern with them, and sometimes one or the other of these ferns. A recent bride carried a sheaf

of callas, lilies-of-the-valley and asparagus fern tied with a white ribbon. And another lovely sheaf was composed of white asters and asparagus fern.

The bride who is marrying for the second time always carries or wears a bouquet of colored flowers. The miss who marries in a colored afternoon frock, or in her going-away suit, frequently has flowers of a delicate tint, too. When the suit is worn, the flowers are usually pinned on, not carried.

Prayer-book Markers

The prayer-book marker is always of white or silver ribbons into which white blossoms or delicately tinted blossoms are knotted. Gardenias, gardenias and lilies-of-the-valley, sweet peas and fern, rosebuds and lilies-of-the-valley — any of these may be used with the ribbon markers.

No one can remember the time when it was not fashionable to wear orange blossoms on the cap part of the wedding-veil. But all the brides of today do not stick to this convention. The girl who is individual wears whatever white flower she wants on her veil. And so, many brides have been having gardenias or other

white blossoms on them. Nor do they stop at this. They have them placed in graceful arrangement on the train and even on the side-edges of the veil.

Below are some of the flower and color combinations that have been seen in bouquets carried by the attendants of the bride at recent smart weddings. You will note that in each case the color of the wearing apparel has been taken into consideration when the flowers were chosen.

1. Apricot chiffon dress, white straw hat. Bouquet of white summer flowers.

2. Orchid and blue chiffon dress, hat to match. Bouquet of mauve orchids and blue delphinium.

3. Sun-tone dress, hat to match. Bouquet of pink sweet peas and cornflowers.

4. Red and white striped chiffon dress, red hat. Bouquet of red and white sweet peas.

5. Peach-colored taffeta dress. Peach-colored roses, delphinium and copper-colored African daisies tied with ribbon to match dress.

6. Pink organdie frock, leghorn hat. Bouquet of pink roses and blue delphinium.

7. Turquoise net gown, hat in matching shade. Bouquet of pink roses and blue delphinium.

8. Blue mousseline-de-soie frock, blue hat. Bouquet of salmon roses.

9. Aquamarine taffeta dress, hat to match. Bouquet of pink roses and sweet peas.

10. Pale green chiffon frock, hat to match. Bouquet of yellow chrysanthemums.

11. Salmon-colored mousseline-de-soie frock, hat in same shade. Bouquet of delphinium and larkspur.

12. Pink and green changeable silk or sunset-shade taffeta dress. Bouquet of pink roses.

13. Blue crape dress trimmed with straw-colored lace, picture hat in blue trimmed with touches of pink. Bouquet of Ophelia roses and lilies-of-the-valley.

14. Golden-hued chiffon gown with silver and blue girdle. Bouquet of yellow chrysanthemums.

15. Pale blue velvet dress. Bouquet of butterfly roses.

16. Peach-colored velvet gown. Bouquet of butterfly roses.

17. Orchid chiffon dress, hat to match. Bouquet of pink chrysanthemums.

18. Yellow taffeta dress with dashes of mauve in it. Colonial bouquet of yellow daisies, violets, lavender sweet peas, pansies and lilies-of-the-valley, with "collar" of yellow lace and tied with tulle in shades of yellow, green and lavender.

19. Blue chiffon frock. Colonial bouquet of pink roses, lilies-of-the-valley and asparagus fern, with old-yellow lace "collar" and tied with ribbons matching the frock.

20. Pale green satin gown, hat to match. Bouquet of yellow roses.

21. Burnt-orange chiffon dress, dark brown velvet hat and shoes. Bouquet of vari-colored dahlias.

22. Bright green chiffon dress, horsehair hat in matching shade and trimmed with green velvet. Bouquet of pale orange dahlias.

23. Golden-brown satin frock with hat of satin and chiffon-velvet in matching shade. Bouquet of dahlias, larkspur and African marigolds.

24. Peach-colored georgette dress trimmed with cream-colored lace. Bouquet of pink snapdragons and butterfly roses.

25. Dress shading from light green to dark, hat of light green horsehair trimmed with dark green velvet. Bouquet of orchids, sweet peas and yellow roses tied with satin ribbon matching the gown.

26. Blue crape dress, blue hat. Bouquet of Ophelia roses and lilies-of-the-valley.

27. Gown of silver brocade. Hat of silver lace. Bouquet of yellow calla lilies.

28. Gown of satin moiré in deep nasturtium shades. Velvet hat to match. Bouquet of chrysanthemums in shades harmonizing with the ensemble.

29. Gown of golden-colored moiré. Bouquet of yellow roses, African daisies and yellow and brown chrysanthemums.

30. Frock of jade green georgette. Jacket of green and gold metallic cloth. Green velvet toque. Bouquet of pink camellias, blue-lace flowers, pink roses and African daisies.

CHAPTER VII

Flowers for the Dining-room Table

The hostess who is fastidious is always particular about the appearance of her dining-room table. Though she knows that the table-covering, the silver, china and crystal must be the finest she can afford in keeping with her surroundings, she worries about them just once — when she is selecting them for a life-time of use, so to speak. But with each re-setting of her board she is concerned about her floral decorations. And no matter how simple or how elaborate her table-equipment may be, something is lacking if a few posies or many, as the occasion may demand, do not add their charm to the ensemble.

When men are to be entertained, the table should always be covered with a tablecloth. They do not like bare or doily-covered tables, as a rule. When Theodore Roosevelt returned from his African expedition the first remark he is reported to have made was, " Thank God

for civilization and a linen damask tablecloth!" And more recently Roy Chapman Andrews boasted that, whenever possible, even in the desert, he always had his meals served on a tablecloth. He claimed that its freshness gave him a feeling of peace and rested him after a hard day's work. And many a man has remarked that a table without a cloth did not seem homelike, but instead, reminded him of a sort of quick-lunch place. This being the sentiment of the sterner sex, the home-maker and hostess should always cover her table with a cloth, even at breakfast. And, of course, the tablecloth is the only proper covering for the formal affair.

Today, there is a large variety of tablecloths to choose from. Not only the white cloth is available, but besides, one may have a fancy colored cloth suitable for use in the breakfast-nook, or the richly tinted cloths suitable for festive occasions. However, a warning should be sounded about the colored cloths. They should be used only if they fit into the surroundings and if suitable table-equipment in china and crystal, in particular, are at hand. And she who is not quite sure of color-combinations will be safest if she sticks to the white

cloth, as flowers of any hue will be pleasing on it.

So much for table-equipment. The flowers are quite another matter. Their arrangement, type and the quantity used depends upon the time of day, the season of the year, and the occasion for which they are to be used. The following suggestions are worthy of note:

1. All flowers should be arranged loosely in the receptacle holding them.

2. The receptacle should be suitable to the type of floral decoration to be used — high, low, round, oblong or square.

3. Flowers should always harmonize in color.

4. Small tables should be centered with short-stemmed flowers; large tables can take either short- or long-stemmed flowers.

5. Simple bouquets should decorate the small table or one upon which breakfast or informal meals are served.

6. Dull rooms should have bright flowers on the table.

7. Bouquets must never "screen" guests. If long-stemmed blossoms form the decoration, they should be in tall slender vases which hold the blossoms high enough not to form a barrier between guests opposite each other.

8. Floral decorations should never be so placed on the table that they interfere with service.

9. Flowers that do not harmonize in color with the decorations of the room are not pleasing, no matter how gorgeous the blossoms may be.

10. Though a few flowers of a simple variety are best for the small table or for informal entertaining, you need not be limited in your choice of flowers to be used on the large table or for formal entertaining.

11. In general, let the seasons of the year be your guide in your choice of flowers for decorations. In spring, also in summer, the dainty flowers lend a freshness to the table. In fall and winter the flowers and foliage in deep, rich colors give a pleasing warmth to your decorations.

12. The fruit-and-flower or fruit-and-foliage centerpiece is always effective and is a service and space-saver for women without servants or for use on the small table.

13. The single blossom in bud-vase or floating in a low bowl; a single candle standing upon ferns which radiate from its base; the fern-dish filled with ferns or other green plants; the tiny wicker or crystal basket holding simple posies; the large seashell with a small bulb plant blooming in it — any of these are suitable as decorations for the small table.

14. Flowers suitable for daytime decorations are not always effective at night. Blue, lavender or purple flowers do not usually make a good showing under artificial light. Some flowers "go to sleep" or close up at night. The California poppy and the water-lily, which are so refreshing for a noon-day decoration, are in this

class of flowers and so are a total loss for the dinner table.

When fruit-and-flowers or fruit-and-foliage centerpieces are mentioned one always thinks of large fruits, such as apples, oranges, bananas, etc. Ferns, fall foliage and boxwood look well with these fruits. A dish of grapes, green or purple, is most effective if bedecked with coral-vine. Strawberries, red raspberries and red currants look well with wistaria vines and blossoms or with leaves of the violet plant. Cherries look well with bits of maiden-hair fern. Small pink chrysanthemums are pleasing with purple grapes.

The following are some of the flowers that look well together:

1. Pink roses and heliotrope.
2. Pink or red roses and purple lilacs.
3. Lilies-of-the-valley and purple orchids.
4. California poppies and ragged robins.
5. Yellow daisies and ragged robins.
6. Blue delphinium and pink roses or pink sweet peas.
7. Nasturtiums and mignonette.
8. Daisies and calendulas.
9. African daisies and pink spiræa.
10. Baby's-breath and sweetheart roses.

11. Sweetheart roses, forget-me-nots and baby's-breath.
12. Sweet peas and lilies-of-the-valley.
13. Forget-me-nots and pink sweet peas.
14. Blue iris and white lilacs.
15. Pink roses and oak leaves.

One of the most artistic bouquets that can be imagined was recently featured at a dinner for eight in the city of Buenos Aires. In the center of the large table was a huge silver bowl. It was filled with hydrangeas, which were mostly blue in color. Now blue, as a rule, is not a good color to choose for an evening decoration. But because these large blossoms were massed, the color made a good showing. The hostess who had arranged them had cut the stems at different lengths so that they stood in pyramid-fashion. The blossoms were placed so closely together that there was not a bit of space between them. Mahogany-colored candles in silver candlesticks flanked the flowers on either side.

The mirror (which should be round on a round or oval table and square or oblong for tables of these shapes) is a great aid in decorating the table. The vase centering it or to one side of it, should be of a similar shape and the

flowers within it should be of the droopy type which will be reflected in the mirror. If a framed mirror be used, the frame should be concealed by smilax or other greens or with vines and flowers.

At large teas or at buffet meals the floral decorations may be more elaborate than at most repasts. Garlands of flowers and vines may decorate the tablecloth where it falls over the sides of the table, and as guests are not seated at table for these affairs, the center decorations may be either high or low.

Of course, the banquet table may, and should be, most decorative. Such tables are of various shapes. They may be in the shape of an *O*, of a horseshoe, of a hollow square, of a T, or they may be simply long and narrow.

At a recent college banquet the speaker's table was, as usual, a long narrow one and the other guests were seated at small tables facing it. The speaker's table was on a platform and those who were there, sat on only one side of it.

Each of the small tables had a bouquet centering it, composed of the college-flower. At the speaker's table, one large bouquet of the same flowers stood in front of the toastmaster's place, and several smaller similar bouquets

Courtesy, Ambassador Flower Shop, N. Y.

THE BUFFET TABLE

The floral decorations may be high or low and the tablecloth may be decorated where it hangs over the sides.

Courtesy, Biltmore Hotel, N. Y.

THE BANQUET TABLE

One large bouquet may be flanked on either side by one or more smaller bouquets spaced at intervals down the board.

were placed at intervals the length of the table. On the side facing the guests at the smaller tables, the tablecloth was festooned with garlands of smilax dotted with the college-flower.

In one of the fashionable boarding-schools the class-supper was held in the conservatory. The table was in an *O* shape. It encircled a fountain which the diners faced. Flowering plants in baskets surrounded the base of the fountain. The fountain-bowl was filled with growing daisies. At each place, a bud-vase held the class-flower.

On one occasion, when the world's most famous horsemen were gathered in New York City, the banqueting-table was in the form of a gigantic horseshoe. As the colors featured at this affair were black and orange, fall flowers and foliage formed the main decorations. A few bouquets in low vases were placed upon the table at intervals. Single blossoms and leaves were scattered on the cloth, and the sides of it which outlined the inside of the horseshoe had hundreds of leaves and flowers pinned to it. On the floor, in the center of the horseshoe, stood many flowering plants tied with orange and black ribbons, and on the table were a

number of miniature Olympic Course jumps, such as rails, stone walls, etc.

At a golf breakfast on one occasion, the table was covered with monk's cloth and Scotch plaid. At either end of the table were bowls filled with Scotch heather. In the center of the table stood a large bowl filled with rosy apples.

At another golf table, the flowers used were thistles.

The table at an Armistice Day celebration had upon it wicker baskets filled with red and white roses and the handles were wound with blue tulle.

Thanksgiving tables are most attractive if decorated with yupon berries, with chrysanthemums and with fall foliage. The cranberry makes a bright and appropriate decoration, too. The berries should be placed in a slightly tipped basket, so that they will spill onto the table. The basket should rest on a bed of fall leaves.

One hostess centered her Thanksgiving table with a pumpkin-basket which was filled with chrysanthemums. Grapes were tied to the handle and also festooned the sides of the basket. Fruit and foliage surrounded the basket at its base.

The Christmas tables described below have been much admired:

1. Center the table with huge snowball made of cotton. Surround it with smaller cotton-snowballs. Sprinkle mica-dust over all. Decorate the whole with pine and pine-cones.

2. Upon a lovely white cloth, place a centerpiece of poinsettias made in plateau-shape. Encircle the plateau with silver candlesticks holding green and red candles.

3. Place a wreath of holly in the center of the table. In the center of the wreath, set a decorated Christmas-tree, standing in a pot. Cover the pot with moss. For variation, substitute for the tree a candelabra holding either red or green candles.

4. Hang ropes of pine, dotted with holly-berries, in festoons from light to light around the walls, or hang them in festoons to the chandelier above the table. At intervals down the length of the table, set low bowls filled with holly. Set tall slender vases holding poinsettias between the bowls of holly.

5. Arrange several small tables around a Christmas-tree which is illuminated with colored lights. Center each table with a little plant of poinsettias.

As a change from the usual heart-decoration for the Valentine table, use forget-me-nots. These may stand in a wicker basket. Pink heart-shaped mints in compotes may flank the basket on either side.

For May Day center the table with a miniature May-pole. Instead of using ribbons on it, use vine-streamers which terminate at the handles of small May-baskets filled with spring flowers. These baskets may stand at each place.

Another May Day suggestion is that of placing " dancing figures " dressed in tulle, upon a runner of moss. Drape garlands of flowers and vines upon the dolls.

On Patriotic days the national colors should be used, of course. A stunning centerpiece consists of a huge flag or shield made entirely of flowers. A bronze or silver eagle may be so placed that it seems to stand guard over it.

The picnic theme is a favorite one for use at summer affairs. The table is centered with green moss. Indentations are made in the moss and small mirrors to represent water are inserted therein. Over these mirror-streams, tiny bridges are placed. Violets and other small posies are scattered over the moss and an occasional "tree" lends height to the decoration. A few dolls holding picnic-baskets are seated in groups on the green.

At one summer luncheon the table was centered with a large round shallow pan filled with water. Leafy twigs covered the sides of the pan

and extended out onto the table in delicate tracery. Pink and white water-lilies floated on the surface of the water.

At a luncheon given to elderly ladies the fan theme was used. The table was centered with a fan-vase filled with lavender and white sweet peas. Lying on the table, sweet peas with their vining foliage extended on either side almost to the ends of the table. Half-way between the center and the ends of the table stood crystal compotes filled with candied violets. At each guest's place, instead of a service-plate, an open fan lay. On the sticks of each fan, a corsage of lavender and white sweet peas was tied.

A lavender French wicker basket filled with jonquils and lavender sweet peas graced another luncheon table. The handle of the basket was tied with lavender and gold-colored tulle, and the candlesticks holding yellow tapers which stood on either side of the basket were also tied with similar tulle bows.

Another attractive luncheon table was centered by a silver basket filled with pink roses, daisies and blue cornflowers. Tall silver candlesticks holding pink tapers flanked the silver basket on either side.

A low green bowl filled with pink roses and

white lilacs centered the table at a very informal luncheon.

At a christening tea the table was centered by a small cradle filled with roses, delphinium and baby's-breath.

At a formal tea the table was centered by a low silver bowl filled with purple iris, white roses, spiræa and trailing myrtle. A silver candelabra holding tall purple tapers stood on each corner of the table and the stem of each candelabra was bedecked with a bow of lavender and white tulle.

Two tables decorated for festivities given in honor of a graduating class were decorated thus: One was centered by a low bouquet of daisies and red cosmos. Tall candles, holding long red tapers, flanked the bouquet on either side. The other table was centered with a mound of pansies which had been made up of corsages and boutonnières. To these bouquets were tied fortunes for each guest. On either side of this mound stood tall compotes filled with lavender and pink bonbons. At the conclusion of the repast, each guest was given a corsage or boutonnière from the center decoration — and of course found the fortune attached to it.

At one débutante luncheon table a mound of

lilies-of-the-valley and bouvardia resting upon maiden-hair fern was the main decoration. At each place there was a corsage of the same flowers. The mound in the center was surrounded with crystal candlesticks holding pale pink tapers.

Another débutante table that was charming was centered by a tall vase filled with pink rosebuds and half-blown pink roses, bouvardia and trailing asparagus fern. The center vase was flanked on either side with a shorter vase holding rosebuds and bouvardia. These little vases were linked to the center vase by the ferns therein. Lying on the tablecloth asparagus fern, embellished with flowers similar to those used in the small vases, radiated from the base of the large vase.

Jack Horner Pies

Little did the author of the Jack Horner rhyme dream that many, many years after, she would be responsible for the creation of society's favorite "pie" — the pie holding favors which is so popular with grown-ups and children alike. And each year they get "gorgeouser and gorgeouser," as the famous Alice in Wonderland remarked during her classic journey.

From before the days within your memory these little pies have been made up in about every conceivable form, but usually with crape paper, with artificial flowers, with tulle, with silk, with hay, and what not. But today it is smart to have floral Jack Horner pies. These may be expensive or inexpensive creations, depending upon the season of the year, your taste, the occasion — or your bank account. But, whatever you feature in a floral Jack Horner pie, you can be sure it will receive unanimous acclaim from your guests, as always happens when anything novel or attractive is offered.

One of the easiest ways to feature these pies is to place cut flowers in a bowl containing moist sand, so they will hold up their heads during the collation and will be available for wear at the conclusion of it. To the stem of each flower is tied a wrapped favor that is to be "pulled" by the use of the ribbon which is tied to it and lies on the tablecloth. Any cut flowers may be used thus. Clusters of rambler roses, bouquets of lilies-of-the-valley, bunches of violets, of sweet peas, of orchids, of gardenias, of spring flowers, etc., may be employed in this way. Single blossoms may also be used for this purpose; and roses, gardenias, orchids, sprigs of

Courtesy, John Wanamaker, N. Y.

FLOWERS FOR THE DINNER TABLE

A low bowl filled with blossoms and surrounded by four tapers in a harmonizing color makes an entrancing decoration.

Courtesy, John Wanamaker, N. Y.

TABLE DECORATION

The colors of the flowers are often emphasized by using candles and bonbons of similar shades.

holly or mistletoe, poinsettias, lend themselves delightfully to such treatment, as any of them are charming when a single blossom is worn.

Several hostesses have featured the flowering plant as a Jack Horner pie. In spring, daffodil plants, Chinese lily plants, lily-of-the-valley plants, rambler rose plants — to mention only a few of the popular ones — are frequently seen in attractive basket, jardinière, or in the pot in which they are growing. However, when used in this last-mentioned way, the pot is usually swathed in colorful crape paper, in wide ribbon, in silk or in tulle. The favors are tied to the stems in such a way that they are well-hidden among the foliage. At the conclusion of the repast, the hostess clips off a blossom for each guest.

A Christmas Jack Horner pie that is appropriate and popular, too, consists of a miniature Christmas-tree in pot, surrounded by cotton over which snow-dust has been sprinkled. To the branches of the tree the favors, wrapped in gaily colored tissue-paper, are tied.

January 1st is the birthday of the New Year, so birthday pies are appropriate for festivities of this month. The snowdrop and the wild rose

are given as January's birth-flower. If either of these flowers can be procured, they should be used. But as mistletoe is supposed to bring good luck to the home in which it is found on New Year's Day, it also is appropriate for decorative purposes for festivities in this month. Later in this chapter will be found suggestions for birthday Jack Horner pies which could be used in January, too, if flowers appropriate to the season are substituted for the birth-flower of other months.

A favorite New Year's pie is composed of a huge clock-face lying flat on the table, the wrapped favors being under it and the ribbons tied to the favors extending out onto the tablecloth. The clock-face is encircled by a wreath of holly and mistletoe.

A huge snowball made by covering a wire frame with cotton besprinkled with mica-dust, may hold the favors. The inside of the ball should be filled with crushed tissue-paper, so that the favors may lie near the surface of the inside of the ball. Red and green ribbons decorated with sprigs of holly should be used for a midwinter party. The snowball should rest upon holly or pine. Sprigs of mistletoe should be knotted into the ends of the ribbons. The snow-

ball is attractive, too, if real poinsettias decorate and embellish it.

A pie that is made in the form of a muff is a unique favor-holder. Any florist can furnish such muffs. The outside is either entirely covered with flowers and greens, or is of satin and is decorated in the manner in which flowers used to be pinned onto muffs. The flowers you will choose for this creation will depend upon the color-scheme you wish to stress.

In February there are, as you know, three dates around which festivities are built. They are Lincoln's Birthday, St. Valentine's Day and Washington's Birthday.

For a Lincoln's Birthday Jack Horner pie, center your table with a flat board. Cover this over with moss and center it with a miniature log cabin. Surround the cabin with small branches, or twigs, so stuck into the moss that they will appear to be growing in it. Place the favors inside the cabin, these to be pulled out by ribbons of a shade of green that matches the moss. To the end of each ribbon tie a tiny axe and a small " log."

Of course, hearts, doves and Cupids must be featured for the St. Valentine's Day pie. A very effective heart pie is created by having a wire

frame made in heart-shape, covered with tiny nosegays and boutonnières. To each nosegay and boutonnière the favor is tied with a ribbon which lies on the table. At the conclusion of the repast the ribbons are pulled and each guest gets not only a favor but flowers or a flower to wear.

Another heart pie is composed of a huge heart-shaped box surrounded with smilax, sweetheart roses and forget-me-nots. The box is filled with heart-shaped bonbons in shades of pink and green. The candies lie on the wrapped favors and when the bonbons are passed at the conclusion of the meal each guest discovers his own beneath the candy he chooses.

Two doves sitting on a nest is a favorite Valentine centerpiece. Favors are first placed in a moss-covered pan. These are covered over with greens and the doves are perched in the center. The ribbons attached to the favors are drawn through the nest-greens. The nest should rest upon moss and small flowers.

An old-fashioned Valentine, with its paper-lace and posies, makes a delightful pie for use on a highly-polished table. To create it, place a large piece of plain white paper in the center of the table. (If the table is round, cut the paper in

round or oval shape; if it is square, cut the paper in that shape.) Top this with a paper-lace doily or napkin. Decorate the "lace" with little posies (forget-me-nots, violets, sweet peas and other small flowers can easily be stuck into the lace). Center the lace with a china Cupid. The favors may lie at his feet or they may be concealed under a mound of flowers which may be so arranged as to surround him. Serve old-fashioned motto candies.

The tulip-pie is easily produced and is most appropriate for St. Valentine's Day. Either cut tulips or tulip plants may be used thus. If the cut flowers are employed, place them in a pan filled with moist sand and pebbles. Cover the sides of the pan with moss, with crape paper, with tulle, or with wide ribbon. To each stem, tie a favor. With a bit of wax, so place a Cupid that he will appear to be sitting on the edge of the pan. If the plants be used, arrange them in a wicker basket, one plant for each guest. Tie a favor to the stem of the tulip growing on each plant. At the conclusion of the repast, give a plant to each guest. A Cupid may stand guard on either side of the basket.

For Washington's Birthday the pie may be in the shape of a Liberty Bell, a miniature Colo-

nial house, a flag, or it may be a large Colonial bouquet made up of several small bouquets. Have symbolic favors at each place.

Any florist can supply the bell made up of flowers in patriotic colors. The bell should lie on the table and the favors should be within it. Red, white and blue ribbons should be tied to them.

The miniature Colonial house should be placed upon moss. Miniature trees should surround it, and the pillars of the house should have vines, green or flowering, entwined around them. The favors should be placed inside the house.

A flag or shield made of posies of the colors of the National flag should have beneath it favors which may be pulled out by ribbons in red, white and blue. The flag might also be composed of boutonnières on a wire frame. At the conclusion of the repast, each guest could draw a boutonnière and a favor which has been tied to it.

A most effective pie for a bridge luncheon on Washington's Birthday consists of a low basket filled with Martha Washington geraniums. These are put into the basket in their pots. At the conclusion of the collation, the hostess in-

vites each guest to take a plant. The basket is later given as a prize for high score in the game.

In March, St. Patrick's Day is usually featured in the first part of the month; Easter in the latter part. For St. Patrick's Day a Paddy's Hat filled with Killarney roses, which are later given to each guest, or a basket holding Shamrock plants, makes a charming centerpiece. Of course, the little plants are given to the guests when a centerpiece is no longer needed.

Easter decorations are featured not only in the last days of March but in the first days of April as well. The most effective Easter pies are made up of corsages or plants of spring flowers and featured in the ways mentioned above for flower or plant pies. Some of the florists make up pies which are composed of huge imitation Easter eggs, cracked widely open on top. Posies are placed in this opening. To the flower-stems the hostess ties her favors.

For a kiddies' party, the ever-popular nest with heads of chicks or rabbits peeping through the greens in the nest, is sure to please. The pie is more attractive if small blossoms are placed among the greens.

In April the shower is featured, too. Perfectly

lovely centerpieces are possible if small parasols be completely covered with natural flowers and have favors dangling from them at the ends of ribbons. The parasol is hung above the table and the ribbons fall at uneven lengths, some reaching the tablecloth.

In May, the May-basket makes a most appropriate pie for festivities in the first part of the month. Toward the end of May, many hostesses feature patriotic pies in honor of Decoration Day.

The brides and sweet girl-graduates hold the center of the stage in June, though Flag Day has some prominence. The brides must have a whole chapter devoted to them, so decorations for their festivities are not given here.

At parties for the sweet girl-graduate the pie is usually made up of the class-flower, though the daisy is in great favor.

In July, Independence Day calls for patriotic pies.

Garden flowers are usually featured in August and September.

The big event for celebration in October is Hallowe'en. It is not very easy to have a floral pie on this occasion, for decorations for this date are always gruesome. However, it is pos-

sible to set the pie upon fall foliage and thus create a bit of beauty for the table.

The horn-of-plenty spilling fruits upon the table and surrounded with fall flowers and leaves is very effective for Thanksgiving Day. Also, a hollowed-out pumpkin, resting upon foliage and filled with chrysanthemums to which favors are attached, is a pleasing centerpiece for the table on this date.

The birthday pie should be decorated or surrounded with the birth-flower of the honoree. And no birthday pie would be complete if candles were not featured with it. Any of the pies suggested for special occasions could be used if the birth-flower be substituted for the one suggested in the pie you choose. One attractive way in which to feature candles is to surround the pie with candles of a color harmonizing with the flower. The candles may be linked together with festoons of flower-bedecked smilax, or each candlestick may have smilax and flowers entwined about it.

CHAPTER VIII

Dressing Up Foods with Flowers

Since the beginning of time the successful chefs throughout the world have realized the importance of making their foods tempting in appearance by the addition of attractive garnishes. But they have confined themselves heretofore mostly to the colorful vegetables or to the vegetable or fruit cut in fanciful shapes. And until recently the home-maker and hostess has followed their example. However, she has now evolved new garnishes that intrigue all who are privileged to behold them, and that require much less labor on her part than did the task of creating the vegetable garnishes, which needed the skill of at least an amateur sculptor. Her new garnishes are made up of flowers. She uses them with fruit, with meats, with salads, with desserts, with cakes, and with beverages.

If you have not tried flowers and foliage as garnishings for foods, you have a treat in store for you. Such festive effects, such enchanting

color-schemes, such a variety of decorations, so many possibilities for carrying out a theme, and so much individuality, can result from the use of flowers as food garnishes that, once tried, they become a favorite with the fastidious hostess.

As is the case with all more-or-less perishable garnishes, flower-garnishes should be kept in a cool place till needed and only to put upon the food, or around it, just before it is to be served. And in the case of flowers, it is better to put the stems of the blossoms or foliage into water till needed. Before decorating the foods with them, the stems should be wiped thoroughly dry, of course.

The dainty flowers and ferns and the half-open blossoms and buds are the best to use with foods; and the flowering or green vines, such as wisteria, coral-vine, morning-glories, honeysuckle, golden-chain, virgin's-bower, cinnamon-vine, wild cucumber, mountain fringe, Virginia-creeper, Boston ivy, wild bean, balloon-vine, cardinal climber, balsam apple, cup-and-saucer-vine, canary-bird flower, asparagus fern, and smilax. Suitable blossoms for this purpose are pansies, forget-me-nots, violets, wild roses, rambler roses, rosebuds, half-

blown roses, pinks, heliotrope, laurel, nasturtiums, sweet peas, flowering raspberries, petunias, poppies, farewell-to-spring, four-o'clock, sweet rocket, fuchsias, tassel-flower, feverfew, cornflower, black-eyed Susans, ageratum, sweet alyssum, Cupid's-dart, calliopsis, cosmos, bluebonnet, false chamomile, swamp aster, fruit blossoms, wild geranium, bluebells, lilies-of-the-valley, begonia, sea-thrift, anemone.

Bright berries and their foliage should not be overlooked for food garnishes. These are usually so placed that they surround the cake or other dish they garnish; but many of the flowers can be placed upon or stuck into the food itself. The list of berries popularly used with foods are holly, emerald feather, bittersweet, rock-spray, black alder, partridge-berry, firethorn, evergreen-thorn, red chokeberries and wintergreen berries.

Before giving specific flower-garnishes for specific dishes, the candied flowers should be mentioned, as they are dainty accessories for the festive repast. The fragrant and ever-popular rose geranium leaf, the lemon verbena leaf and the mint leaf, which are useful not only as garnishes, but to give flavor to beverages as well, should also be considered.

FLOWERS FOR FOODS

A single full-blown rose with its own foliage and scattered petals makes a delightful garnish.

FLOWERS FOR CAKES

Cakes with small posies stuck into the frosting are dainty accessories for festive affairs.

Candied rose petals, candied carnation petals, candied violets and candied mint leaves are in great favor for table use. Frequently they are served as sweets instead of the usual bonbon. And many a hostess passes them with tea to be put into the beverage instead of sugar.

Here is another way to use flowers so that they may aid as a sweetener in tea. Pack down rose petals, rose geranium leaves or violets in sugar. Place the flowers or leaves and sugar in a fruit-jar and seal till sugar is needed, which should be only a few days off. Pick out the flowers before offering the sugar, which will be flavored with them.

Every one knows that mint leaves in iced tea or in fruit punch is a pleasing combination, but our Latin sisters have found that lemon verbena or rose geranium leaves are tasty in tea, particularly hot tea. In Chile, a delightful hostess often offers lemon verbena tea instead of ordinary tea. To make it, she merely pours boiling water over the lemon verbena leaves and lets steep long enough to acquire the taste and aroma of the leaves. An occasional hostess passes rose geranium or lemon verbena leaves with ordinary hot tea, or else places one or the other of them in the bottom of each cup before

pouring in the tea. Unless you have tried this combination, you can have no idea how delicious it is.

Few of us can remember the time when mint sauce or mint jelly was not served with lamb or mutton, but it is only within the past few years that hostesses have begun to realize the tastiness and the beauty, too, of currant jelly, with minced orange peel and chopped mint leaves well beaten into it, as an accessory to serve with these meats.

If you have been keeping house for many years, you have no doubt placed a leaf of rose geranium in the bottom of a jelly-glass before pouring into it currant jelly; but have you ever put these leaves in the bottom of a mold into which you later poured a gelatin dessert? Try it. You will like the combination. Or, scatter a few mint leaves in the bottom of a mold before you pour into it lemon or orange gelatin. When you are using small molds of jelly, fruit-baskets filled with jelly, or lettuce-nests filled with jelly, as a meat garnish, stick a sprig of mint leaves into it. This is very effective and is tasty, too.

Beginning with the first course in a dinner, on through dessert, try out the following suggestions:

First, there is the hors-d'œuvre platter. It usually hold canapés that have been made as tempting to the eye as to the palate. Their beauty can be further enhanced if they be surrounded by or rest on mint leaves or rose geranium leaves, or if small sprigs of mint be stuck into them. Tiny posies may also stand upright in them. One charming hors-d'œuvre platter was centered by a grapefruit-basket, resting on maiden-hair fern and filled with small blossoms.

Violet leaves and nasturtium leaves are useful for decorations on platters holding hors-d'œuvres, fruits, meats, salads or desserts. They are often seen on the individual fruit plate, peeping out from beneath an orange, a grapefruit, a pear, a bunch of grapes, etc.

Of all foods, the cake, the dessert and the salad lend themselves most effectively to flower garnishes.

Today, the hostess knows that if her dessert and salad look festive — and be delicious — the rest of her repast may be very simple indeed, and still have a "partyfied" air.

The cake is now considered a perfect confection with which to complete the collation. But when served for this purpose it is always a large

cake and is presented whole. The platter upon which it rests may have a wreath of smilax, of smilax and small flowers, of holly, or of flowering vine, around its edge. If you prefer, maidenhair fern, nasturtium leaves or violet leaves may outline and radiate from the base of the cake. Tiny posies may stand upright in a soft frosting, too. The cake baked in a tube pan may have a flower-filled vase standing in the hole in the center of the cake and may have sprays of the same kind of flowers lying on the table around the cake.

As no birthday celebration is complete unless there be a birthday cake for it, the hostess-who-cares is always anxious to learn ways in which to feature it.

One way to do this is to use the cake baked in the tube pan and to center the cake with the flower-filled vase and also to encircle the confection as described above. Tiny birthday candles should stand in the frosting of the cake. But a novel effect is given by using the birth-flower of the honor guest. Sometimes at children's parties, individual birthday cakes are offered instead of one large cake. When it is thus done, each cake has one candle centering it and the platter upon which the cakes stand is

decorated with the birth-flower of the honor guest.

A very festive effect is gained for a summer festivity if individual cakes, served with another dessert, have a small blossom stuck into the frosting of each one.

At teas, luncheons and dinners given to celebrate christenings, to honor the members of a graduating class or to feature wedding anniversaries, the cake is usually a most important part of the menu. The christening cake of the little Princess Elizabeth, daughter of the Duke and Duchess of York, was surrounded by flowers and vines, and flowers and vines decorated the sides and top of it. Atop the confection was a cradle held up by Cupids.

The christening cake of another miss, in a humbler station of life, was decorated with her birth-flower and was topped with a pair of bootees filled with the same blossoms.

At one class supper the cake centering the table concealed a "prophecy" written on a scrap of paper, one paper for each guest. Red ribbons and white ones, the class colors, were tied to each prophecy and extended out onto the tablecloth, reaching to the placement plates of the guests. Red roses, the class flower, in cor-

sages and boutonnières, were knotted into the ends of these ribbons. The cake itself was surrounded with red rosebuds and ferns.

For wedding anniversaries, bride-like blossoms are usually used with the cake. Orange blossoms, mock orange blossoms, bridal-wreath, sweet peas and lilies-of-the-valley are always appropriate garnishes for these cakes. However, for a silver wedding, the leaves of honesty, with their silver-like sheen, may be used; and golden-hued blossoms should be featured at a golden wedding. These cakes may be topped with little figures of bride and groom, of a Cupid, or may be ornamented with a flower-trimmed arch with a wedding-bell hanging from its center.

At one anniversary celebration the table was centered with a huge shower bouquet for the bride and this bouquet was flanked on either side by a cake. One of these was topped with a tiny figure dressed as the groom, the other had a bride-doll atop it. Around the groom's cake lay boutonnières for the men and around the bride's cake were tiny nosegays for the ladies.

Ice-creams, gelatin desserts and steamed puddings lend themselves admirably to flower arrangement. Ice-cream may be served on one

large dish surrounded with flowers and maidenhair fern and adorned with flowers stuck into it, or it may be served in individual dishes with only a flower topping it. When served in this last way, it may be in a crystal dish or cup which stands on a service plate, having ferns radiating from the base of the ice-cream dish and partly covering the plate beneath.

Another way in which to serve ice-cream entrancingly is to place it in the center of a large cake, the hole of which has been lined with waxed paper and topping the ice-cream with blossoms.

The ice-cream sandwich is a great favorite at luncheons and teas. It is made by placing ice-cream between two pieces of cake. This is very dainty-looking if small blossoms and tiny leaves of foliage lie on the top piece of cake.

A lovely gelatin dessert is one made, not too stiff, and served in a silver dish. The gelatin is first covered over with whipped cream and it is then decorated with a single full-blown rose with its own foliage and a few extra rose petals.

A steamed pudding, which is so appropriate for the Christmas festivity, is most attractive when surrounded with sprigs of holly or with characteristic toys appropriate to the occasion,

and with small twigs representing Christmas-trees.

Gelatin and fruit or gelatin and vegetable salads may be placed upon foliage-trimmed platters. The mayonnaise dressing topping the salad may be garnished with flowers.

A charming fresh vegetable salad is one that is made to appear an old-fashioned bouquet. To create such a bouquet, first cover a round platter with a paper-lace doily. Place ferns around the edge of the platter, then pile pieces of cauliflower, beet-roses and strips of green pepper upon it. Pansies or other small flowers may be added to complete the picture.

A centerpiece of fruit lying on ice and having fern garnishes is very effective for the summer luncheon table.

At all seasons, certain festivities seem to demand the service of punch. There are many pretty ways in which to offer it. Here are some suggestions:

1. Hollow out a large pumpkin and fashion it into a tub with two handles. Line the inside with quantities of shaved ice and set the bowl which will hold the punch onto it. Tie bunches of grapes onto the handles of the "tub" and encircle the base of it with grapes and ferns.

2. Hang festoons of smilax on a crystal bowl, catch-

A SALAD BOUQUET

Vegetables cut to represent flowers, real blossoms and real ferns lie a-top a round platter covered with a paper-lace doily.

Courtesy, John Wanamaker, N. Y.

FLOWERS FOR THE BED-TRAY

A single flower may lie on a plate, float in a bowl, garnish a dish; or a bouquet may be in a bud vase.

ing it up on the edge of the rim. Surround the base of the bowl with smilax-strands and dainty blossoms.

3. Set the punch-bowl on a large tray. Decorate it as above and place in it a large block of ice. This should be somewhat above the level of the punch that is poured in around it. Place two or three roses and some fern fronds or a cluster of rambler roses on the ice. Decorate the tray beneath with flowers and ferns similar to those used on the ice.

And in this connection, in decorating bowls, don't forget the dainty custom of placing a leaf or a flower in the finger-bowl.

Foods on the bed tray should not be without a blossom, as it is sure to so intrigue the one served that the food will tempt the appetite though if served without it the meal might not have any appeal. A dish of fruit bedecked with ferns or flowers, a tiny vase filled with posies and standing beside a simple dish, or a single rose lying on a salad plate, will make the bed tray a thing of beauty and will take away the dreariness of eating alone.

CHAPTER IX

Flowers for Pre-nuptial Affairs

"There was a time," remarked a philosopher recently, "when I considered all this fuss over brides mere foolishness! With more mature pondering, however, I believe it essential. The race is perpetuated because of the importance attached to the events surrounding the wedding."

Many "smart" people decry the custom of giving the announcement party and the shower, though they look with favor on teas and card-parties. There is a certain excitement about the announcement party or the shower, and the bride who is cheated out of it misses a lot of thrills at a time when she is in a very personal way occupying the center of the stage, and, too, she is cheated out of such happy memories as follow and grow richer and dearer in the mellowing years afterwards.

The announcement festivity is the beginning of those given in honor of the engaged girl.

Flowers play an important part in this, as well as in the other affairs sponsored. And for each social function the house should be as charmingly decorated as possible.

How the rooms will be decorated will depend upon their construction. If there be a bay-window or a mantel, they should be embellished with flowers and vines. Sometimes the stairway has floral decorations. Walls may be bedecked with wall-baskets filled with blossoms and vines, and windows may be outlined with plants and flowers in floor-vases. Their ledges may hold baskets filled with blossoms, too. Rambler roses, coral-vine, daisies and ferns are invaluable in making the scene appear gay.

However, no matter how much or how little one may decorate the house, the refreshment table is always made to present a lovely picture. And these tables always hold something which gives a hint of the nature of the affair.

At one announcement luncheon the table was centered with an anchor made entirely of sweet peas and ferns. At each place a miniature anchor similarly made had, tied to it, a card bearing the names of the engaged couple. At another luncheon, a bride-doll holding a miniature bridal bouquet centered the table. At each

guest's place there was a bridesmaid's bouquet and at the bride's place there was a shower bouquet of bride's roses and lilies-of-the-valley.

At an announcement dinner at which the bride-and-groom-to-be were present, the table was centered with a vine-covered cottage. Just after the guests were seated at table, the butler came to the bride and handed her a key which was tagged "To open the door of your new home." This message was signed by the bridegroom-to-be.

One announcement table displayed a floral heart flanked on one side by a bride-doll and on the other by a groom-doll. The heart was so tipped that the groom-doll seemed to be pushing it towards his bride.

Other recent announcement tables are:

1. A floral heart lying flat on the table and flanked on either side by bonbon dishes filled with heart-shaped candies in pastel shades. Heart-shaped bags filled with rose petals to be used in showering the happy couple were the favors at each guest's place.

2. A pair of doves in a nest of twigs and green, which rested upon flowers and ferns, centered the table. A miniature cage holding two toy love-birds stood between the places set for the bride and groom. The guests' favors were empty cages with doors open ready to house the next love-birds that passed by.

3. A wedding cake resting on ferns bedecked with orange blossoms and topped with a statuette of a Cupid pointing his arrow at the engaged couple, centered another announcement table. A corsage of white orchids and lilies-of-the-valley marked the bride's place; a boutonnière of lilies-of-the-valley marked the groom's place. The other women of the party had corsages of sweetheart roses at their places and the men-guests had boutonnières of sweetheart roses and forget-me-nots.

4. A floral wedding-bell hanging from the chandelier over the table, canopied a statuette of a Cupid which stood on flowers and ferns. From beneath the Cupid's feet radiated ribbons in rainbow hue terminating in little nosegays to which were tied slips of paper bearing the exciting news of the engagement.

5. "Honeymoon Lane" was printed on a tiny card which was stuck into the moss at the entrance of a flower-flanked path leading to a tiny cottage at its end. In front of the cottage was a miniature sign which stated that it had been sold to Mr. and Mrs. Blake. At the end of the table where Doris Towne and Jack Blake (the bride-and-groom-to-be) sat, lay a gilt key with a heart-tag attached bearing the words, "For our home."

6. Standing amidst dainty flowers and ferns, a doll (which was really a boudoir lamp) dressed in bridal array and holding a miniature shower bouquet of lilies-of-the-valley in her arms, centered another announcement table. The ribbons of the bridal bouquet radiated to the diners' places. On the end of the ribbon which terminated at the place of the bride-to-be the engage-

ment ring was tied. On each of the other ribbons was an envelope containing the announcement of the engagement and also the date of the coming wedding.

7. Two floral hearts composed of pink roses and lavender sweet peas and joined by ribbons held by a Cupid which stood between them centered another announcement table. The favors at each place were heart-shaped lockets holding snapshots of the engaged pair.

8. The ring-theme was featured at another announcement table. Above a ring-shaped cake hung a shower of floral wedding-bells and ribbons into which were knotted bridal blossoms. At each woman's place there was a bracelet and at each man's place lay a key-ring. The favors for both had paper silhouettes of wedding-bells tied to them and on these bells the interesting news was inscribed.

9. An announcement that was staged around the date of Hallowe'en was given in a home in which fall foliage and Spanish moss bedecked the rooms. The announcement was made at a table centered with a pumpkin basket which was filled and decorated with flowers and vines and which had gay runners of leaves and yellow blossoms extending from its base to either end of the table. At each place, resting upon leaves, was a tiny caldron with a witch presiding over it. Within the caldron was a slip of paper telling of the engagement.

10. At an announcement given near May Day, the table was centered with a flower-entwined May-pole, surrounded by flowers and vines. A tiny bridesmaid-doll, holding the end of one of the ribbons, stood at

each place, and a little basket on her arm held a paper with the announcement written upon it.

11. The news of another engagement was broadcasted at a table centered by a bride-doll dressed in a sixteenth century satin bridal gown. She stood in a mound of daisies and ferns and in her outstretched arms she held streamers of tulle which radiated to old-fashioned candlesticks at the place of each guest, and were tied thereto, their bows concealing envelopes containing the announcement. The placement cards pictured a bride and her attendants.

At a dance, the programs were small engagement-pads, having special dates on a sheet in the back marked as "taken." The chandelier in the center of the ballroom had strings of smilax tied to it. These, bedecked with cardboard hearts depending from them, extended to the walls and were caught up there, thus forming a canopy. After the first dance, the orchestra played the wedding-march and a tiny maid, daintly dressed and carrying a bridal bouquet, marched down the length of the room till she came to where the engaged couple stood. She then presented her bouquet to the young lady whose announcement party was being given.

At another announcement dance, the programs pictured a wedding-band and a wedding-date was inscribed in the center of it. After the

first dance the wedding-march was heard. The guests parted to form an aisle, down which came a tiny page bearing a floral heart on which lay the engagement ring. This he presented to the bride-to-be.

Bridal Showers

Some one has said that the bridal shower seems in the same class as did the old-time donation party, which only the poverty-stricken could endure. You may think of it that way if you wish. But we who have enjoyed the friendliness attendant at these affairs and have sensed the pleasure of the guests, to say nothing of the bride-to-be, think this an ugly stamp to put upon these delightfully informal festivities. And we advise the friends of brides everywhere, to add to their already almost-overflowing cup of happiness by sponsoring the very nicest showers they can think up. However, as probably all the invited guests plan to give wedding-presents to the bride, it is suggested that the shower-gifts be planned with an eye on the purses of the donors. Handkerchief showers, kitchen showers, vanity showers, vase showers and garden showers allow for the purchase of useful but inexpensive gifts. And we have yet

to discover the maiden who has too many handkerchiefs, too many kitchen utensils, too many aids to loveliness, too many vases or a surplus of garden beautifiers!

One hostess centered her table with a bouquet made up of handkerchiefs. This lay on a bed of ferns. At each guest's place lay a corsage of real flowers in the same shades as those in the handkerchief bouquet.

At a kitchen shower the table was centered by a roasting-pan having its sides concealed with moss, and it was filled with water, on the surface of which floated water-lilies. The pan was flanked on either side, down the length of the table, with packages done up in pink tissue-paper and tied with white ribbons. A tiny nosegay was knotted into the ribbons on each package.

At a vanity shower, the table was very charming with bottles of perfume and toilet water, box of face powder, can of talcum powder and a purse compact. These stood on a long mirror, the frame of which was outlined with flowers and vines. At either end of the mirror stood boudoir vases filled with flowers similar to those used to surround it.

One hostess who sponsored a vase shower

centered her table with a large vase and flanked it on either side by two smaller ones — all three vases being filled with sweet peas. At each guest's place stood a small flower-filled bowl, basket or bud-vase. At the end of the repast, all the vases were presented to the honor guest.

At a party given in the South, a garden shower was staged. The center of the table was graced by a rose rambler plant, to the branches of which were tied gay little packages holding seeds of flowers and vegetables. As each course was served the bride was handed a small envelope into the corner of which was stuck a tiny posy. On opening each envelope she found a note, telling that the undersigned had purchased "at . . ." (naming the store) some specific thing for the garden which would be delivered to her on her order.

At another garden shower the guests were ushered into a living-room, in one corner of which stood a huge floor lamp completely covered with pink and white roses. Beneath the lamp stood a chair with its sides covered with rose petals. The bride-to-be was escorted to this chair, and when seated, was showered with not only plants, but also garden equipment, such as garden basket, shears, apron, trowel, etc.

At a shower given around Hallowe'en, the table was centered with a Jack-o'-lantern filled with cosmos. On either side of the Jack-o'-lantern sat a witch, whose huge skirt concealed the shower gifts which had been placed beneath it.

Besides the above-described shower decorations, the table over which hangs a flower-trimmed parasol is a popular decoration for these occasions. When it is used, the gifts usually hang in shower-effect from the parasol.

Another over-table decoration is the shower ring. This is most artistic if it be composed of lilies-of-the-valley and maiden-hair fern, with sweet peas and ferns or rosebuds and ferns. Showers of narrow white ribbons, into which are knotted sprays of blossoms and also tiny gifts, depend from the ring.

Rehearsal Tables

It is customary to give the bridal party some kind of a party after the final rehearsal for the wedding ceremony. This may be a tea, a seated or a buffet supper. Frequently, the bride and groom present gifts to their attendants on this occasion. The affair is always a jolly and informal one. The chairs of the bride and groom

may be tied together with tulle and a bouquet at the back may be placed at the point at which the chair-backs touch.

Any of the suggestions for table decorations given in the chapter of that title; any of those given for announcement tables; any of those given for shower tables; any of those given for weddings — these may be used with propriety at the rehearsal table.

And here are some additional suggestions for these affairs:

For a buffet supper, place the food upon the buffet, which may be centered by a basket holding a variety of fruits. The base of the basket may be outlined with yellow chrysanthemums and pink asters.

The table around which all gather to partake of the food may have a tulle-entwined basket filled with flowers similar to those used on the buffet. Pink tapers in silver candlesticks will flank the basket on either side. At each place, tiny yellow birthday candles, in the spiked holders used on birthday cakes, will center either a corsage or a boutonnière atop the gift at each place. When the guests enter the dining-room, only the lights of the various candles will illuminate the scene.

Courtesy, Ambassador Flower Shop, N. Y.

THE PRE-NUPTIAL TEA

Frequently the pre-nuptial affair is a large tea where the refreshments are all on an attractively decorated buffet table.

Courtesy, Ambassador Flower Shop, N. Y.

THE LUNCHEON OR DINNER

The walls and ceiling are decorated with greens and each small table is centered with a bouquet.

At one rehearsal table "We" — bride-and-groom dolls — occupying an airplane hanging from the chandelier above the center of the table, hovered over a flower-bedecked "landing-spot" under it. Ribbons fell from the plane and extended to each place. Tiny blossoms were knotted into these ribbons and to the ends of them were tied bags of rice.

The rehearsal dinner table of another couple was centered by a "Ship of Matrimony." The bow and stern of the ship were covered with lilies-of-the-valley, bedecked with pink tulle bows. Narrow pink ribbons extended from the hold of the ship to each place. Pink tulle bags filled with rose petals were tied to the ribbon-ends. At the conclusion of the dinner, the "cargo" was unloaded and proved to be gifts for the attendants of the bride and groom. These gifts were tied to the other ends of the ribbons.

Many a hostess uses a list of questions the answers to which are the names of flowers, as a game at festivities for brides. The following is an example of the type of questions and answers. And of course it is customary to have on display as many as possible of the flowers featured in the contest.

1. What is the groom's name?
   Answer: Sweet William.
2. What is the bride's name?
   Answer: Marguerite.
3. Who introduced them to each other?
   Answer: Johnny-Jump-Up.
4. Who will pay the wedding expenses?
   Answer: Poppy.
5. Who will marry them?
   Answer: Jack-in-the-Pulpit.
6. Who will be the bridesmaids?
   Answer: Black-eyed Susan, Lily, Violet and Rose.
7. What flowers will the ushers wear?
   Answer: Bachelor's buttons.
8. What will the bride wear in her hair?
   Answer: Bridal wreath.
9. What time will they start on their honeymoon?
   Answer: Four o'clock.
10. What would he say if they should part?
    Answer: I have a bleeding heart.
11. What will she say if they should part?
    Answer: Forget-me-not.
12. What is their favorite confection?
    Answer: Candytuft.
13. From what do they derive their income?
    Answer: Stocks.
14. "How long will you love me?" he asks.
    Answer: A century.

CHAPTER X

Flowers for Weddings

Perhaps the most thrilling and important occasion in the existence of a maiden in this world is her wedding. As a rule, she, her women friends and the feminine members of her family want the most elaborate and expensive function possible. The man-in-the-case wants everything as simple as possible. And thus — perhaps — the first lovers' quarrel takes place. But he loses! Everyone knows a bridegroom isn't very important till *after* the wedding ceremony!

There are three types of weddings that society approves: the church wedding, the home wedding and the garden wedding. Society never approves a wedding that is not in keeping with the social standing and the financial circumstances of the bride and her family.

But, whatever the social position of the principals, and whatever the size of the bank account of the bride's family, a wedding in perfect taste can be sponsored.

A church wedding, or any other kind, for that matter, is unthinkable without floral decorations of some sort. And this is so, whether there be five or five hundred witnesses to it.

A charming young couple were married recently at New York's "Little Church around the Corner." Only three witnesses were present, but the church had been decorated, even so. From the entrance of the church up to where the first pew stood, jardinières filled with stately lilies formed an aisle. On either side of the pulpit stood tall vases filled with similar blossoms. Simple? Yes, but most effective.

I recently had the thrill of being chosen to decorate a church for the wedding of the most popular couple in our summer colony. Big as the thrill was, however, I was a bit perplexed as to how I was to achieve an artistic effect, for the blissful pair insisted upon having the scene of their wedding bedecked with flowers native to the locality in which their courtship had been carried on. And that, of course, meant wild flowers. We debated a while, then chose black-eyed Susans. Immediately, all the young people of the crowd got up a lunch and went off just after sunrise on a picnic, combining work with play. They returned with such a wealth of flow-

ers and ferns that when we first beheld them, we wondered if we could use them all. But we need not have worried! We didn't have one too many! And when we got through with that church it was lovely.

From a farmer we got some wire screening; from him, also, we secured yards and yards of wire. The mistress of the mansion-on-the-hill lent us two huge vases, and most of the cottage owners loaned us tin containers which we painted green.

We covered the wire-screening with green oak leaves and so hung it that it covered the back of the altar. We filled the two large vases with loose bouquets of black-eyed Susans and fronds of native fern. These, we placed at either end of the screen, which made a gorgeous background for the gold of the "Susans."

We concealed the chancel-rail with a hedge-effect of native oak. Along its base we placed our water-filled tin containers, and into these we put black-eyed Susans.

The myriads of blossoms we had left were made into huge chains similar to the famous Daisy Chain of Vassar. These garlands were so placed that they outlined the center aisle. They were looped between pews, and at every second

pew we tied on a great loose bouquet of the blossoms. And the church was entrancing.

In floral decorations for a wedding, whether it be church, home or garden, the careful selection of color combinations should not be overlooked. No longer, of course, must one have only white in bridal decorations.

Use flowers in season. This means that all your decorations will be in the colors of the blossoms chosen — yellows, tans, browns, bronze and mahogany for fall; reds and the lighter shades of it for winter; greens, white, yellow, pink, mauve, etc., for spring; blue, pink and all the riotous colors for summer.

Choose colors suitable to the time of day — lovely pale shades of dawn for an early morning wedding; the bright yellows of the sun for a noon wedding; the mellow shades of sunset for the late afternoon wedding.

Church Weddings

Southern smilax, ferns, palms and white chrysanthemums were used for a wedding in a city church. Smilax, in delicate tracery, hung above the altar. It also hung in graceful sprays on the pillars on either side of the church. Fern fronds and chrysanthemums were placed

among the smilax sprays on the pillars, too. Stately palms stood at either side of the altar, and it was banked on each side with chrysanthemums and ferns. White ribbons outlined the center aisle.

Quantities of spring blossoms transformed a church in New York City into a garden of flowers. The chancel-rail was banked with cherry trees in full bloom, having Rosary ferns in the background. Spring blossoms filled the window-ledges and loose bouquets of the same flowers were fastened to each pew.

At a fashionable wedding in the East, the only decorations were composed of fir trees, which formed a background for the bridal party grouped about the altar where the vows were spoken.

The rostrum of a Southern church was converted into an old-fashioned garden, which was surrounded with a white lattice fence that had been covered with ivy. The bride and groom passed through gates opened by two tiny pages. Guests were seated on old-fashioned benches placed among palms and ferns.

A simple decoration we saw in the West was such as any one could copy. Smilax outlined the windows, and window-boxes filled with blos-

soms and trailing vines stood on each window-ledge. The altar was banked with ferns.

At a church wedding which took place not so long ago, the choir-loft was embanked with palms, and Southern smilax hung over the paneling above. Large green floor-baskets, filled with white chrysanthemums, linked together with smilax garlands, were placed around the pulpit. The railing in front of the pulpit was banked with palms and white chrysanthemums. At each end of the rail stood a tall candelabra holding white tapers. Smilax garlands outlined the pews on the center aisle, and the families' pews were marked with bouquets of white pompon chrysanthemums.

At another recent church wedding, Southern smilax adorned the altar in graceful festoons and outlined the windows and also the arch at the entrance of the church. Tall tulle-entwined floor-baskets, filled with white blossoms, had as a background quantities of green foliage which banked the rail in front of the pulpit.

In another church the altar was massed with bride's roses and lace fern, while about the chancel stood large baskets filled with the same blossoms. The handles of the baskets were covered with roses and ferns, and tulle which ended in

Courtesy, Biltmore Hotel, N. Y.

FLOWERS FOR THE WEDDING

A simple arrangement that is suitable for church, hotel or home wedding.

Courtesy, Ambassador Flower Shop, N. Y.

WEDDING DECORATIONS

Decorations in large rooms are always massed at some central point.

huge butterfly bows. Palms and white blossoms were banked against the wall space on either side of the church, and the main aisle was spanned by latticed arches twined with Southern smilax and roses.

The floral decorations for a wedding ceremony performed in another church consisted of quantities of pale pink asters against a background of ferns and palms and a smilax-entwined chancel-rail and altar. Tall vases filled with pink asters and ferns marked the place where the bride and groom stood.

Masses of stately palms, smilax and Austrian ferns were banked against the organ-loft and choir-rail in still another church. Tropical palms were placed in front of the pulpit, extending to its end on either side. Where the palm decorations terminated, stood large brass vases filled with Easter lilies.

One of the prettiest little weddings we ever witnessed took place in the parish of a Catholic Church. A friend of the bride's family sent a florist into the bare little room to make it into an indoor garden. He completely covered the walls and ceiling with flowering fruit branches. On either side of the altar he placed tall vases filled with the same type of branches.

A simple decoration that is always a favorite is one composed of ferns banked in the background of the choir-stall and has large seasonal blossoms in vases flanking the prie-Dieu on either side.

In another simple church decoration the chancel is banked with palms and ferns, interspersed with baskets filled with white gladioli. Each window is filled with ferns and white and orchid gladioli.

A simple, yet delightful, decoration is to place a vine-covered lattice at the spot at which the vows are to be spoken. A lattice fence banked with ferns and palms may extend from this to either side of the church.

A church at one of the fashionable summer resorts had its chancel banked with palms and ferns interspersed with baskets of pink roses. Window-boxes filled with foliage and pink roses stood on each window-ledge. The pews were surrounded by bouquets composed of the same flowers and foliage.

In one Episcopal Church, the altar was resplendent with cathedral candles burning in tall candelabras. These stood on either side of massive urns filled with white roses. Trailing Southern smilax hooded the chandeliers and

wreathed the arched rafters overhead. The same foliage decorated the choir pews.

At another church wedding yellow gladioli and blue delphinium decorated the window-ledges. The altar was covered with white lilies and ferns. The main aisle was decorated with tall yellow standards topped with yellow and blue blossoms and entwined with smilax.

At a recent church wedding in New York the decorations consisted of large yellow and pompon chrysanthemums, ferns and evergreens. The giant golden-yellow chrysanthemums banked the chancel-rail and were massed on either side of the altar in front of the choir-stalls. They were also banked in the rear of the altar, and the same blossoms topped tall standards on either side of the altar and the chancel-rail. Tall gold standards supporting shower bouquets of pompon chrysanthemums marked the center aisle. From each of these bouquets rose five cathedral candles. These standards were affixed to the pew-ends, of course. The only illumination in the church during the ceremony was that furnished by candles. The wall spaces were banked with tall ferns and evergreens.

So much for specific church-wedding deco-

rations. Of course, the permanent interior decorations of the church should always determine, to some extent, what is selected in floral embellishment.

Home Weddings

In decorating the home for the wedding, decorators make much of the stairways, the fireplace, the windows and the lighting fixtures. Trailing vines hood chandeliers, outline windows and wreath the pictures on the wall. Here are some of the decorations that have been sponsored by smart people at recent home weddings:

1. Southern smilax covered the banister of the stairway down which the bride marched. High standards topped with flowers were affixed to the newel-posts.

The ceremony was performed in the living-room. Southern smilax outlined the entrance-door and also the pictures on the walls. The marriage vows were spoken before a screen composed of ferns and flowers. This screen was stopped with cybotium ferns which formed a canopy over it.

2. Tall white columns, twined with ivy and topped with arches, defined the the aisle from the flower-trimmed stairway to the improvised altar. The canopy over the altar was made in the shape of a four-leaf clover. This was green, of course. It was studded with

Courtesy, Ambassador Flower Shop, N. Y.

THE OUTDOOR WEDDING

The steps leading into a garden may be decorated on each side. Down these the bridal party descends.

Courtesy, Biltmore Hotel, N. Y.

THE HOTEL WEDDING

The decorations of this room could be used as well in the living-room of the home.

lilies-of-the-valley and showered with tiny electric lights shaded in the predominant color of the other decorations.

3. The ceremony was performed in front of the fireplace in the living-room. An aisle from the flower-bedecked stairway leading to it was outlined by flower and smilax-entwined floor-lamps. These furnished the only light in the room during the ceremony. The other floral decorations in the room consisted of smilax-wreathed pictures and a flower-and-fern-banked mantel with potted ferns on either side of it.

4. At a candlelight wedding, cathedral candles in tall candelabras, which were linked together with chains of smilax, formed an aisle from the stairway to the end of the living-room. At this spot, where the large windows extended across the entire space, stood a prie-Dieu against a background of Southern smilax and the richly colored blossoms of fall. Only the light of the candles illuminated the scene. The bride's attendants each carried a lighted gold-colored taper, to which was tied a shower bouquet of pompon chrysanthemums, ferns and narrow bronze ribbons.

5. The fireplace was banked with palms and ferns. Floor-baskets filled with pink gladioli flanked the fireplace on either side. The stairway down which the bridal party came, was latticed with green foliage and garden flowers in pastel shades. At the foot of the stairs stood an arch covered with green foliage. The walls of the room in which the ceremony took place were outlined with floor-vases filled with garden flowers.

6. Down a stairway trimmed with Southern smilax

came the attendants of the bride, carrying two huge daisy chains, which formed the aisle through which the bride passed to the improvised altar in the conservatory.

Garden Weddings

The romantic and home-loving miss often wants to have her wedding take place in a garden which has endeared itself to her through memories of happy days spent there. Or she may want it to take place in the wooded grounds surrounding her home of childhood days — those lands with their great trees and tiny brook. And lacking garden or wooded lands, she may want to have an outdoor wedding, anyway. In fair weather, a wedding ceremony staged under heaven's canopy is always charming. Below are suggestions for garden weddings that have been sponsored by smart people:

1. At a garden wedding that seemed to have come from the pages of a book about fairyland, white canvas was stretched from the front door, across the porch, down the steps, out into the garden, terminating at an improvised altar composed of ferns and palms. The aisle formed by the canvas was outlined on either side by tall wicker floor-vases filled with lovely summer blossoms and trailing vines.

2. Great tubs filled with hydrangeas in shades of pink and blue outlined the aisle to a sunken garden, at a ceremony performed under a canopy of Southern smilax and pale pink blossoms.

3. Down a path hedged with yellow and red tulips bordered with green shrubbery, marched one bridal party, till it reached a vine-covered arch flanked on either side with a fence, also vine-covered. Here the ceremony was performed.

4. Another charming setting for a garden wedding was a flower-and-vine-covered garden wall in the background of a small pool centered by a bronze statuette of piping Pan standing on a rock among the reeds.

5. The stone steps leading to an enclosed garden spot became the bridal path of another wedding party. On either side of the steps grew tall trees; at top and bottom of the steps, flowering plants graced the posts on either side. An ivy-covered grille fence, with double gates, encircled the garden in which the ceremony took place. Within this garden, a narrow path, bordered with a profusion of flowering plants, had at its other end a lovely statue of Dan Cupid. The statue was flanked on either side by a boxwood hedge. Before this ruler of hearts, the marriage vows were spoken.

6. On one large estate the wooded lands became the scene of the nuptials. Trees framed a tiny stream which ran through them. Over the stream a small rustic bridge had been erected. Flowering plants outlined a path down which the bridal party came. At the edge of the stream they grouped themselves for the marriage ceremony.

7. A charming outdoor wedding took place on the steps of a mansion fronted by a stone terrace. The entrance door to the house was opened to disclose the hall stairway, which had been trimmed with Southern smilax. The bridal party came down this to the doorway, which was outlined with Southern smilax and served as a canopy over the bride and groom. Palms, placed in a graduated line, flanked the door on either side. Ropes of garden flowers and foliage outlined the outer edge of the terrace, thus separating the witnesses from the bridal attendants, who occupied the space on the terrace.

8. A garden porch with gabled roof, covered with flowering vines, was the spot at which the marriage vows of another couple were spoken. The open door onto the porch exposed an aisle made by floor-baskets filled with summer blossoms, linked together by trailing vines. Down this, to the vine-wreathed doorway, came the bridal party. The bridesmaids and the groomsmen grouped themselves around the outside of the porch.

Recently there have been many airplane weddings. For these, the bride should wear a bouquet of flowers which are not heavily scented. However, she *may* carry a bouquet if she prefers. And flowers without much fragrance should be used in making the interior of the plane festive-appearing.

CHAPTER XI

Flowers for the Bridal Table

No matter what time of the day a wedding may take place, usually a festive collation follows the ceremony. The hour of the wedding depends upon the choice of the contracting parties. In some of the southern cities, in the summer when the heat is intense, even eight-thirty in the morning may be selected; and this, too, in a Protestant church. The most universally popular hour for the morning wedding, however, is between twelve and one. Many brides prefer the afternoon hours for the ceremony; and still others choose the evening hours. Whatever time of the day is selected, though, brides who believe in signs are wed just after the minute-hand has passed the half-hour, as it is claimed to be good luck to be married when the minute-hand ascends the dial.

At the reception following the early morning wedding ceremony, a hearty breakfast is always served, and frequently there is no wedding-

cake, though there may be boxes of "dream cake." It is a pretty custom to tie into the ribbon around each box a small flower similar to those used in the bridal bouquet. And if there be no wedding-cake decoration in the center of the table, flowers bedeck it anyway. This is true, regardless of the hour of the wedding breakfast.

A so-called wedding breakfast is served at the reception after the wedding staged at noon. The menu offered is more like a luncheon, however. It may be served at table or buffet style, as far as the guests are concerned. The bride and groom and their attendants always have refreshments at table.

The refreshments served after the ceremony in the late afternoon take on the air of reception collations.

A supper menu of three or four courses may be served at the evening wedding, and it may be offered at table or buffet style.

To most people the wedding-cake is a very important part of the wedding repast. It must be as beautiful as possible and it must taste heavenly. It must contain such symbols as silver or gold wedding-band, thimble, wishbone, dime, button, etc.

Making it beautiful is an easy matter if flow-

ers are used to bedeck it. A famous cateress in New York City, who has furnished the wedding-cake for such a personage as Alice Roosevelt, frequently tops her confection with a low bowl held up by Cupids. Into this bowl she puts blossoms like those carried by the bride, and she surrounds the cake with ferns and flowers similar to those used in the bowl atop it. Some caterers top the wedding-cake with a plaster-of-Paris flower-trimmed arch which canopies figures dressed to represent a bride and groom. One of New York's most famous caterers tops the wedding confection with a white basket with handle decorated with flowers and a tulle bow. The basket holds similar blossoms. He outlines the base of the cake with delicate ferns. At a recent fashionable wedding, the wedding-cake was topped with a small confection baked in a tube pan. Lilies-of-the-valley filled the center of this.

Sometimes the wedding-cake is the center decoration of the bride's table; sometimes it is placed in front of her place at table; and sometimes it stands on a buffet at the side. Sometimes, even, it has a table all to itself.

The cutting of the wedding-cake is usually a ceremony in itself. At one smart wedding recep-

tion, the orchestra, which had been playing popular music, suddenly struck up with the wedding-march. At the first notes the bride and groom arose from their chairs and marched around to the table holding the cake. The music stopped when they reached it. The bride cut the first piece, divided it with her groom, and then the blissful couple once more returned to their seats to the tune of the wedding-march.

Here are some descriptions of wedding tables which have had the wedding-cake as part of the decorations:

1. The table was covered with a banquet cloth of embroidered linen and filet lace, from which fell a graceful flounce of tulle. It was centered by a three-tiered wedding-cake elaborately embossed with frosting-flowers. This was topped with a basket filled with lilies-of-the-valley. The confection was surrounded at its base with a procession of tiny china Cupids, standing on a bed of ferns, sweetheart roses and lilies-of-the-valley. Silver candlesticks, holding white candles embossed with lilies-of-the-valley, flanked the cake on either side. These were encircled at their base with floral decorations similar to those surrounding the cake. Silver ribbons, tied to each candlestick, had their other ends caught up to the chandelier over the table, thus making a sort of canopy over the wedding-cake. A shower of blossoms was knotted into the ribbons where they met on the chandelier.

Courtesy, Irene Hayes, N. Y.

FLOWERS FOR THE BRIDAL TABLE

Flowers and candles in attractive arrangement. The wedding-cake is topped with a basket holding flowers.

Courtesy, Irene Hayes, N. Y.

AN ATTRACTIVE BRIDAL TABLE

A floral wedding-bell topped with lilies-of-the-valley, flowers in heart-shaped containers, and flowers on the cake, make an effective combination.

2. The table was overlaid with a Venetian lace cover. A double ring-shaped cake with the center filled with white sweet peas and lace ferns graced the center of the table. Above this, a shower of white sweet peas, ferns and silver ribbons fell from the central chandelier. A silver candelabra, holding white tapers, flanked the cake on either side. Flowers and ferns formed a delicate tracery on the table at the base of each candelabra.

3. At either end of the table stood low bowls filled with bride's roses and white sweet peas. These were connected to the wedding-cake in the center of the table by strands of smilax. The round confection was topped with a china figure of a Cupid that seemed to be holding the ends of the smilax-strands in his arms.

4. A dome of ribbon-covered wire, from the center of which hung a floral wedding-bell topped with lilies-of-the-valley, centered the table. On the table, under the bell and centering the dome, lay a mound of lilies-of-the-valley outlined with tulle. Ferns and blossoms concealed the base of the wires forming the dome. Half-way between the dome and the two ends of the table, lay heart-shaped mounds composed of lilies-of-the-valley and ferns.

The wedding-cake stood between the places set for the bride and groom. It was three-tiered, the top tier being ring-shaped. Lilies-of-the-valley filled the center of this.

5. Six tall slender vases, filled with lilies-of-the-valley and bride's roses and encircled at their bases with similar blossoms and smilax, extended down the length of the table. Three white candles, in silver candlesticks,

were placed at intervals on each side of the table. At the bride's place stood a three-tiered confection topped with a basket filled with lilies-of-the-valley. The handle of the basket was decorated with a fluffy tulle bow.

So much for bridal tables on which the wedding-cake stands. And now for tables without it:

1. At a fall wedding breakfast the table was centered by a bowl filled with salmon-colored dahlias. Heart-shaped boxes, outlined with maiden-hair fern, held heart-shaped bonbons on either side of the bouquet. A gift wrapped in tissue-paper in a shade harmonizing with the blossoms, and topped with an orange blossom knotted into the ribbon which encircled the box holding the gift, lay in front of each place.

The wedding-cake centered the buffet at one side of the room. It was flanked on either side by a silver candelabra holding salmon-colored tapers. A huge fern centered the window space at one end of the room and the windows were outlined by stately palms and oak leaves.

2. The walls of another dining-room were covered with Southern smilax. The bridal table was centered by a huge cornucopia filled to overflowing with fruits and pompon chrysanthemums. This was flanked on either side by bronze candlesticks holding yellow tapers.

The wedding-cake stood on a bed of ferns and pompon chrysanthemums on a table of its own. The cake

was topped with a miniature cornucopia filled with candied fruits.

3. The bridal motive was developed at another table by the use of a tall crystal vase holding white chrysanthemums centering the board. From this vase, soft loops of pale green tulle extended to baskets at each end of the table. The baskets held chrysanthemums, too.

The wedding-cake, standing in the center of the buffet, was flanked on either side by a silver candelabra holding green tapers.

4. A statuette of a Cupid in the middle of a large mirror, the frame of which was outlined with sweetheart roses and lilies-of-the-valley, centered a table that had crystal compotes filled with pink bonbons halfway between the mirror and the two ends of the table.

The wedding-cake, which stood on a flower-framed mirror on the buffet, had crystal candlesticks, holding delicate pink tapers, on either side of it.

5. In a room where a fall wedding supper was held, the walls and ceiling were transformed into a bower of autumn flowers, leaves and bittersweet berries. Tall floor-baskets filled with yellow chrysanthemums and foliage outlined the walls at intervals.

The bride's table was centered by a mound of yellow pompon chrysanthemums and ferns. This encircled a tiny playing fountain. French blue compotes filled with yellow bonbons flanked the centerpiece on either side. Narrow yellow and blue ribbons looped from the central chandelier to the compotes formed a canopy over the centerpiece.

The wedding-cake standing on the buffet was wreathed at its base with yellow and blue blossoms and it was topped with two china doves holding small wedding-rings in their bills. Dresden candlesticks, holding yellow tapers, stood on either side of the confection.

CHAPTER XII

Floral Decorations for Wedding Anniversaries

Romance is lived over anew as happy couples celebrate their wedding anniversaries. And usually much is made of the cotton, the paper, the wooden, the tin, the crystal, the silver and the golden weddings.

Though stunt decorations are most popular at these affairs, it is also possible to have them dignified and lovely. And that, of course, is where natural flowers come in.

At a cotton anniversary in the South, huge branches of cotton in full bloom filled every corner of the dining-room. The table was centered by a green bowl filled with white blossoms. Over this hung narrow streamers of pale green cotton cloth into which were knotted white flowers. On either side of the flower-bowl were placed little groups of negro dolls and tiny baskets filled with cotton. Cotton handkerchiefs

masqueraded as doilies at each place. The room was illuminated by the lights of white tapers standing in large spools of cotton thread. One of these stood at each place.

This will give suggestions for a similar cotton anniversary in any part of the country.

At one paper anniversary, the table was centered with a huge old-fashioned bouquet with a paper frill about it. Paper cups filled with nuts at each place had their handles entwined with flowers and vines, and the placement cards held posies in one corner, two slits having been made in the card for this purpose. Very narrow strips of crape-paper formed curtains at the windows. Smilax and flowers were fashioned into a valance, from beneath which these curtains hung, and smilax-strands hooked them back to the sides of the window-frame.

At another paper anniversary the table was centered by a bride-doll and a groom-doll in crape-paper costumes. They stood on a moss "garden" besprinkled with real posies. A crape-paper arch twined with vines and small natural posies canopied them. Refreshments were served on paper plates and in paper cups. Flower-painted paper napkins were substituted for linen napkins.

A pioneer table was featured at one wooden wedding. In the center of the table there was a mirror. Sand outlined this on two sides. The sand extended up onto mossy banks, which were two ends of a moss runner that extended the length of the table down its center. At the edge of one bank stood a wooden covered wagon. Groups of dolls, in old-fashioned crape-paper dresses, stood or were seated around this. A wooden dog stood at some distance from the wagon and cattle seemed to be venturing towards the "river." Twigs of boxwood were so stuck into the moss that they looked like growing trees. On the other side of the river trees sheltered a shack standing near the end of the moss runner.

At another wooden wedding a vine-covered cottage centering a moss-plot abloom with flowers and partially hedged and equipped with wooden benches, on one of which sat two embracing dolls, formed the main decorations of the refreshment table. The favors at each place were wooden articles, such as cigarette boxes, pin-trays, etc.

At still another wooden anniversary the table held as central decoration a mirror-lake, outlined with wild flowers and foliage, on which

rested birch-bark canoes. In each of these, a loving couple sat.

A tin colander with its holes filled with flowers and foliage formed a floral mound in the center of a table for a tin anniversary. Aluminum cocktail-shakers filled with blossoms flanked this on either side, half-way between it and the table-ends. Candies wrapped in tinfoil lay in tin jelly-molds at each place. And, of course, the repast was served on tin plates. Tin cups held the beverages.

The crystal, the silver and the golden wedding can be the most gorgeous of all.

At one crystal wedding the table was centered by a crystal bowl holding a few pink roses in a crystal flower-holder. The base of the holder was bedecked with forget-me-nots. Crystal compotes on either side of the bowl held pink and blue bonbons.

A crystal candelabra holding lighted green tapers and standing on a flower-and-foliage-framed mirror, centered another table. Halfway between this and the ends of the table, low crystal bowls held blossoms similar to those used around the mirror.

Rainbow-hued crystal is both appropriate for these celebrations and helps relieve the decora-

tive monotony. Inexpensive favors are available for crystal anniversaries. There are crystal bracelets, crystal beads, glass iced-tea spoons, glass cigarette boxes, glass ash-trays, crystal baskets or bud-vases, glass or crystal salt-and-peppers, crystal bonbon dishes, crystal trees, crystal statuettes, etc.

At a silver anniversary the walls and ceiling of the dining-room were hung with Southern moss. A silver basket filled with white blossoms and green foliage centered the table. Silver candlesticks holding white tapers flanked the basket on either side. Ferns, studded with white blossoms, radiated from the base of each candle-stick.

Silver pheasants standing on ferns and flowers centered another table set for a silver anniversary. The favors at each place were silver bonbon dishes and silver ash-trays filled with bonbons.

From the chandelier over the center of another table set for the celebration of a silver anniversary, depended narrow silver ribbons into which were knotted sweetheart roses. Beneath this ribbon-and-flower shower stood a wedding-cake encircled with similar blossoms. Half-way between it and the table-ends stood small deli-

cate pink baskets filled with bonbons wrapped in silver paper. Maiden-hair fern in delicate tracery upon the tablecloth linked the baskets to the cake.

At a reception held in honor of a golden wedding anniversary, the tea-table was overlaid with a handsome Chinese cover worked out in gold. A large wedding-cake, surrounded with yellow roses and maiden-hair fern, was canopied with a floral wedding-bell composed of the same blossoms.

Amber-colored crystal gave the golden note at another golden wedding. An amber-colored vase filled with mauve asters centered the table. Above this a wedding-bell made of mauve sweet peas was suspended from the chandelier. Narrow gold ribbons knotted to hold mauve sweet peas hung from this and were tied at the other ends to amber-colored crystal candlesticks holding mauve tapers. Ferns studded with mauve blossoms radiated from the base of the vase and extended to and beyond the candlesticks at each side. Corsages for the ladies and boutonnières for the gentlemen formed the favors at each place. The stems of these were wrapped in gold foil, and gold-colored ribbons adorned the corsages.

A sunburst effect of gold-colored crape-paper framed a mound of autumn flowers and foliage in the center of another table set for a golden wedding anniversary. The walls and ceiling of the dining-room were decorated with fall leaves and yellow chrysanthemums. At each place there was a corsage or boutonnière of yellow pompon chrysanthemums and ferns. To each of these was tied a gilded wishbone, upon which the guests made a wish for the honored couple. "Good luck" favors done up in gold-colored tissue-paper, topped with a single blossom, marked each place.

CHAPTER XIII

Church, Public Hall and Large Room Decorations

Unless a church or other place of size be unusually rich and elaborate in its interior decorations, flowers and plants must be used, if an atmosphere of cheer and beauty is to welcome those who are to enter it. However, floral decorations for such places must be carefully chosen and carefully arranged or pleasing results will be lacking. Too many or too few plants or flowers must not be used; poor grouping is fatal; too many colors must not be featured; the happiness of performer and audience (or guests) alike, must be considered.

In other words, one should strive for beauty and harmony in all decorations without sacrificing convenience. Everything should be so arranged that an impression of loveliness is achieved.

Too many flowers or plants in a small room give a cluttered-up appearance; too few flowers

in either a small or a large room give the impression of bareness; poor grouping creates an inharmonious picture; too many colors in a decoration produce an appearance of confusion; if the pleasure of the performer and the audience is not reckoned with, both are annoyed.

Some years ago a noted hostess engaged a famous string quartette for an entertainment in her home. She literally "caged" the musicians in a network of palms and flowering plants. They scarcely had room to move. As a result, the program was not up to expectation and the artists were highly indignant. It goes without saying that the hostess and her guests were greatly disappointed, too.

In grouping flowers and plants, care should be taken that they in no way make for inconvenience. The most pleasing outline to follow in placing foliage is that of graduation. Tall plants may be placed in the center and smaller ones may stand to the left and right, tapering off quite low. Frequently, the tall plants are placed at the ends and the line gets smaller towards the middle. Care should be taken that plants are neither crowded together nor too widely separated. In the former arrangement

the beauty of the individual plant is lost; in the latter, the line is too broken to give artistic results.

No matter where or for what occasion floral decorations are in order, a definite color-scheme should be chosen and adhered to.

Different places and different occasions demand different decorations. A room decorated for a formal affair takes formal decorations; gay festivities take gay decorations; dignity should characterize the decorations in a church or in a large hall in which a program is to be given. To get such an effect, use palms, pine-trees, large baskets filled with gorgeous blossoms, large branches of foliage, and large flowers or large flowering plants, such as chrysanthemums, poinsettias, hydrangeas, lilies, peonies, clusters of rambler roses, hyacinths or tulips. Branches of dogwood, of fruit blossoms and wild flowers such as goldenrod, sumach, etc., are often useful for decorations in large rooms.

In arranging flowers in a large hall or in a church, do not scatter the blossoms. They should be massed, as a few blossoms placed singly are a total loss; besides, they give a polka-dot appearance and thus annoy instead of please.

Successful decorators usually have one central point at which the main decorative effect is stressed. In the church, this point is sometimes the choir-rail, sometimes the altar, sometimes both, and frequently the main aisle comes in for its share, too. On a stage it may be at the back, at the sides, at the footlights, or the only decorations featured may be massed in front of the stage at its base.

In the ballroom, the platform upon which the musicians sit will be banked at its base or outlined with plants, flowers and vines; if there be a mantel in the room, it will be bedecked; the punch table will be decorated; the walls will be outlined with foliage, and often festoons from the walls to the central light will form a canopy over the dancers.

For a large reception or tea given in the home, the decorations are apt to be quite as elaborate as those of the ballroom. The entrance hall, the living-room and the dining-room will be the most elaborately embellished, however. Many energetic hostesses canopy their living-room with smilax, foliage or Southern moss, have vine-covered arches over doors and at the point where the receiving line stands. This last, though, is not in such good taste as is

a background of foliage or plants banked behind the honor guests and their hostess. Floor-baskets, filled with flowering plants or with cut flowers and artistically and conveniently placed, add much to the beauty of the reception-room. And all rooms used at a festivity should have at least some floral decorations, if only a few blossoms in a vase.

Certain seasons seem to demand flowers and plants that will reflect the spirit of the time or of the occasion. No one could conceive of anything but poinsettias, holly or pine in the church at Christmas; Easter lilies at Easter; spring flowers and flowering fruit branches in April and May; large garden flowers in the summer months; and fall foliage and chrysanthemums in October and November.

A unique and most effective Easter decoration was featured in a small church in the Southwest. Standing in a long box that extended the length of the platform which served as a pulpit, was a cross completely made up of small flowering plants. To either side of the cross, in a graduated line, the ends very low, were Easter lilies against a background of foliage. After a service which had been particularly planned for the children, as well as for their

Courtesy, Biltmore Hotel, N. Y.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Flowers and plants decorate a crescent-shaped table—the new moon for luck!

Courtesy, Biltmore Hotel, N. Y.

FLORAL DECORATIONS FOR LARGE ROOMS

Many flowers, plants and trailing vines may decorate the large room. Palms are especially effective.

parents, each kiddie first, and later the adults in the congregation, were asked to come up and choose a plant from the cross, these plants to be carried away to the home.

A Christmas decoration that was most effective and dignified was seen in a church in the Northwest. The back of the altar was outlined with dozens of pine trees. Floor candlesticks holding red candles towered above the pulpit on either side. Natural poinsettias were massed in front of the pulpit, and half-way between the wall and the pew nearest to the altar on either side, stood tall floor-baskets filled with poinsettias and ferns.

In a small church in the East the altar was festooned with ropes of hemlock. A huge star made of holly was placed where the ropes were caught together at the central point in the festoon. Christmas bells made of holly were hung between loops to the side.

The back and sides of a stage upon which graduation exercises were held had ivy-covered sheets so hung that the walls were completely concealed by them. Myriads of daisy plants were massed in front of the stage at its base.

At a festivity in one of the fashionable boarding-schools, the stairway in the entrance hall

was the spot at which the most elaborate floral decorations were grouped. This spot was chosen because down the stairway, in great pomp, the graduating class, appearing for the first time in evening dress, came on their way to their class supper. Huge chains of daisies and foliage covered the banister, and great masses of the same flowers adorned the railing in front of the balcony half-way between the first and second floors.

In some cities it is customary to give all the débutantes a coming-out ball at one fell swoop, as it were. Sometimes these balls are staged in the fall, sometimes at Christmas, and sometimes just after New Year's Day. One that was given in the fall in one of the Southern cities is "going down in history," as far as those who saw it are concerned.

Smilax in festoons garlanded the walls. It was caught up at intervals by huge shower bouquets of orange-colored pompon chrysanthemums and gold ribbons. Smilax festoons meeting at the chandelier made a canopy over the room. The lights of the chandelier were hooded in golden gauze ribbon, which was caught up in puffs and terminated with sprays of flowers and foliage and ribbon that dangled at uneven

lengths. Shrubbery banked the walls, with intervals marked by floor vases filled with chrysanthemums, large and small. Golden ribbons were looped from vase to vase.

The stage, with shaded lights, was outlined with smilax, and baskets filled with blossoms were banked against it. At one end of the room stood a large dome, curtained with golden gauze and outlined with foliage. Through the golden curtains each miss passed, and as she appeared she was presented with a lovely fan, to the handle of which was tied a shower of blossoms that matched her frock.

Punch was served in the hall, the walls of which were hung with foliage. In all rooms used for the guests, flowers and foliage, in wreaths and festoons, lent enchantment to the scene. Supper was served at small tables centered by clusters of golden-hued pompons.

At a club dance given in one of the Southern cities a trellis of bamboo-stalks formed a pergola at the entrance of the ballroom. This was covered with smilax. Chinese lanterns swung from it at uneven lengths. Tall floor-baskets, filled with chrysanthemums, lined the wall spaces.

The punch table was beneath a huge Japa-

nese parasol which had been trimmed with smilax. It was banked with foliage at the handle-end of the parasol.

The lights throughout the room were hooded with Oriental shades and all about the room dangled the quaint little bells which one always associates with the Orient.

A Christmas dance was held in a ballroom which had its doors outlined with cornucopias filled with poinsettias. Pots of growing plants of this flower filled every window. Suspended from the central light was an enormous bell made of holly. From this, red streamers extended to every part of the room, thus forming a canopy. Small pine trees made a background for potted poinsettias in front of the platform upon which the musicians sat.

An old English garden was featured in one enchanting ballroom. In the center of the room stood a gazing-globe, its base surrounded by flowers and foliage. Each corner of the room was a garden spot in miniature. In one of these was a sun-dial; in another a bird-bath; in the third a statue; and in the fourth a fountain. Window-boxes filled with flowering plants and vines rested upon each window-ledge. The walls were outlined with shrubbery and flowering

plants which stood in garden-boxes. Wall vases held bright blossoms above the foliage. Smilax and flowers in garlands festooned the chandelier.

Supper was served at small tables in another room. They were placed around a fountain, which was banked at its base with potted plants and had its bowl filled with blossoms in pastel shades. Each table was centered with a small basket filled with similar blossoms and rested on fern fronds radiating from the base of the basket.

A before-dance dinner was given in the ballroom of one of the old aristocratic homes. Several flower-beds were arranged in the center of the room. Miniature electric lights illuminated each bed. Around them the tables were placed. They were centered with flowers similar to those in the gardens. The walls were completely covered with trellises which had smilax twined upon them. Potted plants adorned the window-ledges.

A big bridge party given in May featured May Day in its decorations. In the center of the room stood a May-pole twined with rose and blue larkspur, yellow and purple iris, roses and daisies. It stood in a mound of flowers and

foliage and it was flanked by two tall floor vases, opposite each other, filled with roses and blue larkspur. The tables, covered with cloths in pastel shades, surrounded the May-pole and vases. Smilax was garlanded between the windows and outlined them, a bouquet of blossoms centering the smilax over the top of each window.

CHAPTER XIV

Flowers for Funerals

There is never a time when attention from friends is so valued as when a dear one is taken from life. Sympathy calls, offer and performance of service, notes of condolence — and flowers — give the greatest comfort to the bereaved. And there is never a time when friends so much want to do their utmost for the grief-stricken, either. But sometimes it is difficult to know just what one *can* do that will be most useful. However, there are many services that a friend can perform. One of these is to take the cards from floral offerings, and not only put them away for safe keeping, but also list the names of the donors and the type of floral gift sent by each.

Another service is to remember the bereaved when the excitement of the funeral is over. The dreary days are those that follow, as all who have gone through them can testify. Intimate friends should make frequent inquiries about

the well-being of the heart-broken, and notes and visits from others will be greatly appreciated, too. Thoughtful people do all these things and, besides, send around tasty food treats to tempt the appetite and also send flowers every now and then to brighten the lonely home.

The first concern — almost — of the bereaved family is that of ordering a floral spray for the entrance door of the home. The choice of this spray will be one that is appropriate to the age of the deceased, whose favorite flowers are given first consideration, and selections will be made with due regard to the size of the family purse. For children and young persons the spray is usually dainty and has in it lilies-of-the-valley, sweetheart roses, forget-me-nots, baby's-breath, garden flowers, etc., and is tied with white ribbon. For elderly people, Easter lilies, calla lilies, roses, carnations, orchids, chrysanthemums, or wreaths of leaves, tied with purple or lavender ribbons, are most appropriate.

The next concern of the family is that of selecting a floral tribute for the funeral of the departed. What this will be will depend upon the taste and the purse of those responsible for its choice. Most people who can afford to do so, se-

lect a casket cover, a floral pillow or a casket spray. This last gift to a loved one will be the best one can procure, of course.

Sometimes, the family inserts a notice in the papers which reads "Please omit flowers." We who have taken charge in saddened homes, now disregard these notices. Those responsible for them *think* they mean what they say. But they don't! The wealthy and the poverty-stricken alike, get the utmost comfort from the remembrances which pay tribute to them or to their dear one. We remember a family in which the children requested "No flowers" for their departed mother. And no flowers arrived — till a few hours before the funeral services. Our hearts ached for the bereaved. Every time the doorbell rang, they rushed up to us to inquire whether flowers had arrived or not. And upon learning that they had not, were most crestfallen.

Though it is not generally done by every one, thoughtful persons everywhere, send some flowers to the *bereaved* as soon as their sorrow is learned of. The cards accompanying such gifts are addressed to the living, and a short note or a line of sympathy is penned thereon. "With deepest sympathy" is sufficient. These flowers

are not supposed to be for the deceased, though they are always placed in the room in which he (or she) lies. Later, these same people send something to the deceased. This should be done not earlier than a day before the burial services are to take place, as the offering is then fresh when transported to the grave.

We have often been asked how floral tributes sent to the dead should be addressed, and we are told by a New York City florist who numbers among his customers the very wealthiest people, that even the "best people" — those who are expected to know everything about social customs — are much worried over this question. This florist, who has been commissioned to send such gifts to presidents and kings even, answers the question thus: "It is perfectly proper to send flowers with a card addressed to the nearest of kin, with a notation thereon which reads, 'For the funeral of . . .' The floral gift may be sent to the bereaved if a word of sympathy be penned on the card. It may be sent addressed to the deceased. Or the card with the flowers may say only, 'For the funeral of . . .'"

In selecting floral tributes to the dead, choose set pieces — a sheaf, a wreath, flowers in basket, a standing piece, a pillow or a casket cover. The

value of cut flowers sent loose is lost, as they do not lend themselves to easy or to artistic arrangement around the casket. However, this is only so with flowers to be used at the funeral. The sympathy-flowers sent as soon as the notice of the death appears should be cut flowers for use in a vase.

As the funeral flowers are received, they should be placed around the casket, those of intimate friends being put nearest. Somehow, the family subconsciously feels that the dear one knows about this attention and will be pleased. Anyway, it pleases them!

There is only one way in which loose flowers are effectively used for the casket. That is when they are employed in some loving ceremony. We remember one house in which the adored master of the estate had passed away. His servants were crushed — some of them having been in his employ for more than twenty-five years. The night before the burial was to take place, these devoted souls formed in line — there were well over a hundred of them — and paid their last respects to their master. As each one passed by his casket, to gaze for the last time on the face of him they had loved, he or she laid one pink carnation on the foot of the casket. No sin-

gle act so touched the hearts of the family. And having known the man and his good works in life, we all felt that no last rite that was performed to honor his memory could possibly have given him greater joy. This group of servants sent a floral broken-wheel for his funeral.

One of society's favorite florists in New York City gives the following data about suitable door sprays and floral tributes.

1. Door sprays should be made of flowers that are chosen for their keeping qualities, as they are necessarily placed where they may be exposed to severe weather conditions. The following flowers are suitable: violets, orchids, Easter lilies, pink rubrum lilies.

2. Funeral pieces suitable for a young person are: Spray of light pink roses and blue delphinium. Pink lilies used with various colored croton leaves, either in spray or wreath. Lilies-of-the-valley and pansies used in spray or wreath. Yellow roses and Queen Anne's lace flower. Bright-colored pompon chrysanthemums used in spray or wreath. African daisies and yellow roses used in spray or wreath

Of course, the above flower combinations may be used in set pieces, such as pillows, crosses, standing wreaths or standing sprays. As a rule, the light pastel shades are more suitable for the young.

Courtesy, Ambassador Flower Shop, N. Y.

CASKET COVERS

The casket cover Pola Negri sent for the funeral of Rudolph Valentino.

Courtesy, Ambassador Flower Shop, N. Y.

SET PIECES

The wreath, the sheaf, the spray, the basket of flowers or any set piece is better than loose blossoms.

Courtesy, John Wanamaker, N. Y.

FLOWERS FOR THE STORE

No matter how exquisite the merchandise, its beauty will be enhanced if a few bouquets be placed in the room in which it is displayed.

3. The pieces generally used for elderly persons are: Wreath of violets and orchids, a spray of Easter lilies or a standing wreath of Easter lilies. Easter lilies used with a large cluster of violets make a very dignified wreath or spray. Red roses and violets are a rich combination, especially when the Scott Key roses are used, as the color of these roses blends exquisitely with violets. Lilies-of-the-valley and orchids, or orchids separately of course, make a very handsome piece.

4. Casket covers may be made up of one flower or of two varieties of flowers. A casket cover of orchids, lilies-of-the-valley, violets or roses is always a very handsome piece. A combination of light pink roses with a panel of lilies-of-the-valley in the center is very artistic.

5. Pillows are necessarily set pieces and are generally made up of roses, carnations, sweet peas, lilies-of-the-valley, or some other flower that can be stemmed in a manner to carry out the design.

Of course, the flowers that have been sent for the funeral are carried to the grave and are placed around it before the mourners arrive there. Many people send the flowers that have been around the casket, in the first carriage leaving the home after the services are concluded. However, there are other ways to do it.

At one home, the floral tributes were sent on to the grave after the family had left for the church in which the services were to be held.

When the casket was brought into the church, it had but one bouquet on it — a spray of purple orchids and maiden-hair fern which was the gift of the widow and her one child. When friends and family arrived at the burial-ground, the flowers which had surrounded the casket while the deceased lay in state were already artistically arranged about the grave.

For a prominent gentleman who had requested that his remains be placed in the church for a day before burial, the family engaged the services of a florist, who surrounded the casket with flowers and foliage when it was placed there. It was stationed in front of the choir-rail and the floral decorations covered the rail and framed the pipe-organ in the background. The flowers that had been sent to him at the house were taken to the grave, and tended so they would appear fresh on the day of burial.

When the moment arrives for the bereaved to follow the remains of a dear one to the grave, sorrow wells up in their hearts anew. They cannot bear to put into the ground or into a mausoleum, the one who for them has made life worth while. For this reason, if for no other, the grave should be as lovely as possible. Many florists have at hand special oil-cloth linings

decorated with painted designs of ferns with which they can line the grave. They have other ways of doing it, too.

One of the most effectively decorated graves we have seen had been lined with muslin. The muslin was completely covered with flowers which had been pinned on to it. These flowers had come from the estate of the deceased and were the kind he had loved most. Sometimes, the muslin lining is merely hidden by ferns or foliage. Of course, the floral tributes are always so arranged that they hide the tossed-up earth around the grave.

As frequently rainy weather may be encountered on the day of the funeral, it is wise to have a canopy over the grave and to have strips of carpet laid on the ground surrounding the grave. This is necessary for the protection of the feet of the living. A strip of carpet or canvas should extend from the spot at which the carriages stop up to the grave. This strip of carpet may be outlined on either side with branches of foliage or with flowers and ferns. Chairs for the family or intimate friends should also be provided.

One of New York City's smartest florists says that he arranges all details of the funeral when-

ever the family so desires. And most florists will do so. Many of them even send around their men to clean up all the remains of floral decorations and to re-place the furniture in customary positions while the family is at the grave. This applies to a funeral held in the home of the bereaved, of course.

None of us arrive at a very ripe age before we are called upon to pay our last respects to friends, at least. Each of us wants to do our utmost to show our affection and esteem of not only the deceased, but of those who were dearest to them in this life. You may know of other ways to accomplish this, but one thing that is always in order, and greatly appreciated by the grieving, is a floral tribute.

CHAPTER XV

Miscellaneous Flower Suggestions

There are many ways in which flowers may be used to advantage that have not been mentioned in the preceding chapters, but which are important enough not to be overlooked.

For instance, did you ever try to make a bit of pin-money by growing flowers for sale? And have you ever sold flowers to raise funds for charity? It can be done, even though you may not be an expert saleswoman.

Some years ago, a woman in the East who had the knack of making everything she planted grow, started to sell the blossoms from her garden to her townspeople. Soon persons driving along the road that ran by her house, became her customers. With this beginning, she decided to devote more ground to the growing of flowers, and her venture was so successful that now she has acres and acres abloom. But she didn't stop with mere sales. Each year, she goes to one of the big cities and takes a course

in some angle of flower culture, flower arrangement, etc., and her increased business proves that her time has not been wasted.

Another woman lived in an almost rainless section of the Southwest, and the city water supply of her town was so alkaline that it would kill plant life. The place boasted of no florist, even though the services of one were often required. Only the rich could have floral decorations in their homes, for they had to order their blossoms from another town.

But one day all this was changed. This clever woman decided to use her closed-in back porch as a flower-store. She established connections with a florist in one of the near-by cities. Before her first little bit of stock arrived, she made her back porch attractive. Rag rugs were scattered over the floor; bright little gingham curtains were draped back over the windows. She made herself a frock and a fetching apron to wear. Then she sent out invitations to her friends to come have tea with her in her garden-porch, stating on the invitation that she would have flowers to sell. These flower-hungry people simply poured in to that tea, and long before the afternoon was over, every blossom had been sold! Besides, she had orders for more from

those disappointed souls who got to the scene after everything had been disposed of. From that day on, she had enough orders to demand shipment every day. Soon, hostesses got her to order very special and expensive flowers for them whenever they were sponsoring elaborate social functions. When these orders began to pour in, she betook herself to the city to study flower arrangement and floral decoration. And soon she was doing a record-breaking business.

One live youngster makes a very tidy sum by the sale of bittersweet berries, fall foliage and similar wild stuff which he and the friends he hires gather each year. The oak leaves and bunches of bittersweet are sold to florists. These boys also gather cedar, pine and pine-cones. With these, they combine bittersweet berries and arrange them in baskets which are sold to business houses for window decorations.

In the city of Buenos Aires, the ladies of the American colony have an annual charity Bridge party. Those who have gardens bring in all the flowers they can spare. These have a big sale among apartment dwellers, and so a tidy sum is added to the funds.

It is always easy to sell boutonnières and corsages at charity affairs. Usually pretty girls

carry them from table to table on decorative trays. They can be sold for from ten to twenty-five cents even when they are common garden flowers.

At a charity Bridge given in a smart home in one of the fashionable suburbs of New York City, small bouquets of pompons were sold at twenty-five cents each. The stems of the blossoms in each bouquet were wrapped in tinfoil and a pin was stuck into it. The young girls who brought them around said there was a lucky number in one of the tin foil wrappings and that she who got it would receive a very decorative "garden" in a colorful bit of pottery. The bouquets sold so quickly that many people could not be supplied.

At a charity Bridge in the Southwest, the committee sold ten-cent chances on a gorgeous plant which had been donated by a leading florist of the city. And it was no trouble at all to sell those chances!

Things sell better if they are attractively presented. That is why they are always displayed in decorative booths at bazaars. When flowers are used, it is not difficult to make up appealing booths. A table or even boards on "horses" may be the foundation. These may be concealed

by layers of tarlatan, by frills of crape-paper, by silk or by cotton cloth. Usually, they are canopied. This is done by fastening heavy arched wires from front corners to opposite back corners and tying them together where the arches cross.

A very pretty booth may be made by covering the wires with flowering vines and tying them together in the middle. From the ribbon may hang a floral wedding-bell with showers of blossoms dangling from it at uneven lengths. The cover which hangs over the sides of the table may be decorated with smilax-strands or other vines, in festoon arrangement. In this booth, "gifts for the bride" will be sold.

Substituting a Christmas bell fashioned of poinsettias or holly for the wedding-bell, the same decoration could be used on a table for Christmas gifts. Of course, the wires would be concealed by pine, and festoons of trailing pine would decorate the table cover.

An attractive flower booth may have the table covered with flowered crape-paper. At each end of the table may be erected a lattice. These lattices will be entwined with vines. Several wires will be stretched between the lattices and these will be covered with flowering vines.

A garden wall may be the background for another flower booth. This is easily made by covering a long board with crape-paper having the design of this type. Vines should be hung over it. From each side of the wall potted plants should stand. These should extend out in a wide circle terminating on either side of a garden path made by a strip of crape-paper of a similar design to that used in fashioning the wall. Small stands within the enclosure may hold bouquets, plants and choice garden seeds.

A very effective booth for fall can be made by covering the table with crape-paper in the shades harmonizing with the colors in fall foliage. At each end of the table, branches of oak leaves may be fastened in an upright position so that the touching branches above form a canopy, or frame for the goods displayed thereon. On such a table, foods might be sold — plum puddings, fruit cakes, jams, marmalades, pickles, pumpkin pies and all the good things one craves at this season.

Carnivals and Parades

In many cities, in both America and Europe, a flower festival is held once a year. On these occasions the whole town is abloom. Prizes are

offered for the most artistically decorated windows, doorways, balconies, etc. There is a parade of flower-bedecked conveyances; and when this is over, the crowd goes to a park or to a specified drive and rides around and around having a battle of flowers. Many take along bushel-baskets filled with single blossoms and with bouquets. Girls and men throw handfuls of posies at each other. At length, energetic youngsters gather up the blossoms that have fallen to the ground and then they do a thriving business reselling them as ammunition to the battlers.

In the parades, animals drawing carts or carriages are bedecked with blossoms, and horsemen have their mounts adorned with flowers. Prizes are offered for the most attractively decorated animal; they are offered for the most artistically, for the most cleverly, and for the most elaborately decorated conveyance.

Even if your town does not sponsor a flower carnival, it may at some time sponsor a parade in which decorated floats are featured. There may be a business men's parade; a patriotic parade; a parade to advertise a big charity drive. And, of course, there is nothing so lovely to decorate with as natural flowers.

In a business men's parade, a merchant who specialized in novelties had a "Christmas present" float. This is how he decorated it: A truck was covered with red crape-paper. Festoons of pine decorated the sides of it. At each corner, stood a Christmas-tree loaded down with ornaments and tiny packages tied up in gaily colored papers. In the center of the truck sat a Santa Claus with a big bag at his side. He was surrounded by pretty girls dressed in winter-like costumes. Each girl had a Christmasy flower pinned to her frock. Santa handed out to these maidens small, inexpensive advertising novelties, which they tossed to the crowds on the sidewalk.

A building contractor covered his truck with green crape-paper. This was cut in fringe-fashion to represent grass. The floor of the truck was covered with the same. A vine-entwined fence surrounded the floor of the truck. In the center stood an attractive vine-covered cottage. This was surrounded by miniature gardens with real flowers seemingly growing therein.

In a patriotic parade there are many things to feature. You may choose events in the lives of our national heroes or you may feature merely the flag and the national colors.

An automobile may have the thrown-back hood covered with a floral flag made up of blossoms in patriotic colors. A flag may stand at either end of the wind-shield. Festoons of flowers in patriotic colors may decorate the sides of the car, and red, white and blue crape-paper strips may be entwined in the spokes of the wheels. A huge brass, silver or bronze eagle may stand on the radiator.

A float that made its appeal to possible contributors for a fund to send poor children into the country featured wooded lands. On the grass-covered floor of a truck were placed several small trees that were seemingly growing there. Little clumps of wild flowers were embedded in the grass, and small children pranced around in glee over the grass.

Church workers find that the baby parade always brings out big money-giving crowds. Many times, the babies are "displayed" in small floats that are propelled by hand. Most of the dainty decorations popularly used on automobiles may be copied for these. This is also true in decorating doll-carriages which are frequently featured in a baby-doll parade.

Often, children are participants in tricycle or

bicycle parades. These machines may also be decorated with natural flowers and with vines.

Once one begins to decorate with natural flowers, countless ways will suggest themselves in which these loveliest of all decorations may be used.

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